

F
118
M14
1874A

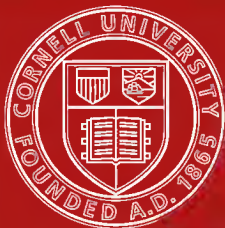
**LIBRARY
ANNEX**



CORNELL UNIVERSITY LIBRARY



3 1924 064 295 557



Cornell University
Library

The original of this book is in
the Cornell University Library.

There are no known copyright restrictions in
the United States on the use of the text.

<http://www.archive.org/details/cu31924064295557>

Production Note

Cornell University Library produced this volume to replace the irreparably deteriorated original. It was scanned using Xerox software and equipment at 600 dots per inch resolution and compressed prior to storage using CCITT Group 4 compression. The digital data were used to create Cornell's replacement volume on paper that meets the ANSI Standard Z39.48-1984. The production of this volume was supported in part by the Commission on Preservation and Access and the Xerox Corporation. Digital file copyright by Cornell University Library 1991.





John A. Dix,

LIFE SKETCHES
OF
GOVERNMENT OFFICERS
AND
MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE
OF THE
STATE OF NEW YORK
FOR 1874.

By W. H. McELROY AND ALEX. McBRIDE.

ALBANY:
WEED, PARSONS AND COMPANY, PRINTERS.
1874.

Entered, according to act of Congress, in the year eighteen hundred and
seventy-four,

By W. H. MCELROY AND ALEX. MCBRIDE,
In the office of the Librarian of Congress, at Washington.

ALBANY, N. Y.
WEED, PARBONS AND COMPANY,
PRINTERS, STEREOTYPERS
AND PUBLISHERS.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
Introduction, - - - - -	5
State Officers, with portraits of Governor Dix, Lieut.-Governor Robinson, etc., - - - - -	7
Senators, - - - - -	47
Members of Assembly, with portrait of Speaker Husted, -	121
List of Senators, with District, County, Post-office and Politics,	339
List of Assemblymen, with District, County, Post-office and Politics, - - - - -	340

INTRODUCTION.

The publication of "Life Sketches" began in 1858, and has been continued, with an occasional hiatus, ever since. Each volume contains a condensed biographical sketch of the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, State Officers and Members of both branches of the Legislature, and thus fills its niche and has its value in the not unimportant department of works of reference. The present editors prepared the annual for last year, and met with such encouragement and success as induced them to continue the series. The editor of Life Sketches for 1858 expressed the aim and limitation of all the volumes when he wrote, in his preface: "Beyond its usefulness as a work of reference, it is, comparatively, of but little interest to the public. The private details embodied in the sketches are designed only to give it interest as a volume for private circulation among the friends of those whose lives constitute its pages."

As regards the merits of the present volume, the editors have only to say that they have taken great pains to avoid errors, either of fact or date, and to render the sketches as complete as possible within the limits prescribed.

It will be noticed that, the sketches being arranged alphabetically, the necessity of an index is removed.

LIFE SKETCHES.

JOHN A. DIX,

GOVERNOR.

"Nothing," says DE QUINCY, "makes such dreary and monotonous reading as the old hackneyed roll-call, chronologically arranged, of inevitable facts in a man's life. One is so certain of the man's having been born, and, also, of his having died, that it is dismal to lie under the necessity of reading it." There would be more force in this utterance of the great opium-eater, were it not for the fact that Nature never repeats herself. No two of her children exactly correspond. Characters are not duplicated any more than faces. In an hundred biographies we are sure of perfect agreement in but two particulars — all the hundred were born, and they all died; but what a wide divergence as to the "inevitable facts" that go to make up the record lying between the stations Life and Death!

In the present biographical sketch and those which succeed it, the editors profess to have given such and such only of the inevitable facts in the history of those treated of, as the public have a right to know. No fitter rule can be laid down for the guidance of the biographer, who would write of living subjects without offense to them or the canons of taste, than that enunciated by Mrs. STOWE in her volume "The Men of Our Times." "Every public man," she says, "has two lives, his public and his private. The one becomes fairly the property of the public in virtue of his having been connected with events in which every one has a share of interest; but the other belongs to himself, his family and his intimate friends, and the public have no more right to discuss or pry

into its details than they have into those of any other private individual."

In considering the long and illustrious career of JOHN A. DIX, we are forcibly reminded of a remark that IRVING makes in regard to the first President. WASHINGTON, he tells us, had very little *private* life. The words can be most appropriately transferred to General DIX, for probably no public man living has occupied so many important positions of trust, has had so long an experience in political life as he. The salient facts of his history are as follows: JOHN ADAMS DIX, twenty-fourth Governor of New York, was born at Boscowen, New Hampshire, July 24, 1798, and was the son of Lieutenant-Colonel TIMOTHY DIX of that place. After spending some time in a French college at Montreal, young DIX was appointed a cadet at the United States Military Academy in 1812, but gave up the appointment to bear his part in the war of 1812-15, having in 1813 received an appointment as ensign in the fourteenth United States infantry. A year subsequently he was made third lieutenant in the twenty-first regiment of infantry, in March, 1814, became second lieutenant, and in the fall of that year was transferred to the artillery arm. 1815 found him adjutant, and 1818 first lieutenant. In 1819 he received the appointment of aide-de-camp to General JACOB BROWN, a distinguished officer, then commander-in-chief of the army, and spent much time at Washington, where he enjoyed the acquaintance of CALHOUN, CLAY, VAN BUREN and other prominent party leaders of the time. In the spring of 1821 he was transferred to the third artillery, and in the summer of 1825, became Captain DIX. Serving as captain until December 31, 1828, he then resigned his commission, having spent sixteen years in the military service. Going abroad not long after, he enjoyed the delights and benefits of extensive travel, and then returned to this country and entered the legal profession at Cooperstown, in this State, where he soon became prominent in political circles

as a zealous partisan of ANDREW JACKSON and democratic principles. In 1831 he was appointed adjutant-general by Governor THROOP, and two years later was elected secretary of state. A recent writer in the New York *Commercial* calls attention to the fact that with General DIX's adjutant-generalship began one of the most memorable chapters of his political life. We quote:

"Gen. DIX's connection with the political 'ring,' known as the Albany Regency, dates from his acceptance of the position of adjutant-general. That 'ring' was made up of such material as VAN BUREN, MARCY, BUTLER, CROSWELL, WRIGHT, BEN KNOWER, FLAGG, JAMES PORTER, BEARDSLEY, BRONSON, DICKINSON, YOUNG and DIX—men irreproachable in private life—men famous for their uprightness and intellectual political vigor. They were the brains of the party, and when the places that knew them so well knew them no more, the old democratic party went out with the tide. They played an important part in the stirring events that make history from 1815 to the present time, A. C. FLAGG and Gen. DIX, as we observed, being the last of the race. Mr. WEED, in his autobiography, could hardly be expected to do more than incidentally refer to this political galaxy of statesmen, diplomats, senators, judges, financiers, lawyers and controversialists, who 'went to the front' and participated in the fierce excitement and masterly exhibition of talent at a time in the history of our State and national politics most intensely interesting."

While General DIX was secretary of state—and by virtue of his office he was also superintendent of common schools, a member of the canal board and one of the commissioners of the canal fund—new canals were being constructed, the enlargement of the Erie canal was commenced, and the network of railways that now covers the State was just beginning to be spread. The secretary's position, it will thus be seen, was one of unusual responsibility, and that he filled it with great honor to himself and to the entire satisfaction of

the people there is abundant evidence. His administration was especially distinguished for what it accomplished in behalf of the schools of the State. Hon. SAMUEL S. RANDALL, in his "History of the Common School System of the State of New York," reviews General DIX's career as superintendent, and thus concludes:

"In passing from the administration of General DIX to that of his successor, it is scarcely necessary to observe that the exertions of the former, during the six years in which the interests of the common schools were committed to his charge, in the elevation and expansion of the system of popular education, *were unsurpassed by any of his predecessors*. The impress of his clear, discriminating and cultivated mind *was stamped upon every feature of that system*; and the order, arrangement and harmony which prevailed in all its parts, *were due not less to the ceaseless vigilance of his supervision* than to the symmetry and beauty of the system itself. In 1837, under the authority of the Legislature, he collected together and published a volume of the decisions of his predecessor and himself, embracing a full exposition of nearly every provision of the school act — *establishing upon a permanent basis the principle of future interpretation, and exerting a highly beneficial influence upon the councils and proceedings of the officers and inhabitants of the several districts, in repressing litigation, and in defining the powers, privileges and responsibilities of those called to the performance of any duty in relation to the common schools. The system of district school libraries was also organized and put into successful operation under his immediate supervision*; and to his clear and convincing exposition of the principles upon which that useful and beneficent institution was based, the ends it was designed to subserve, and the objects it was capable of accomplishing, *a large share of the success which has attended the establishment is unquestionably due.*"

At the expiration of his term as a State officer, General DIX

resumed the practice of law, and devoted himself to the duties of his profession until 1842, when he was sent to the Assembly from Albany county. In 1845, SILAS WRIGHT was called from the United States Senate to be Governor of New York, and JOHN A. DIX was elected to fill the place which he left. He appeared in the Senate at a time when questions of vast moment were agitating the country—the annexation of Texas, the war with Mexico, the joint occupation and disputed boundary of Oregon, the power of Congress over slaves in the territories, and others that will readily occur to the reader. He took an active and distinguished part in the discussions, and showed a broad and statesmanlike comprehension of, and thorough aptitude for affairs. He was chairman of the committee on commerce, and was an efficient member of the committee on military affairs. He fathered a bill for reciprocal freedom of trade with the British provinces, and one for defining the duties and reducing the salaries of officers of the customs in the large ports.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD succeeded him in the Senate. In 1848 he ran on the “free-soil” ticket for Governor, but was defeated by HAMILTON FISH. He took an active part in 1852 in the presidential campaign, doing much effective work in FRANK PIERCE’S canvass; but, after his candidate was elected, declined the portfolio of State, offered him by PIERCE, in favor of Governor MARCY. In 1853 he was appointed assistant treasurer in New York city, a position which he filled only for a short time, resigning, and devoting himself exclusively to his profession until 1860, when he was appointed postmaster of New York city. And so we come to the grey dawn of the great rebellion—a rebellion on whose world-regarded stage General DIX played a prominent part, adding new lustre to an already famous name, and rendering inestimable services to his country. Near the end of BUCHANAN’S term, the secessionists, taking advantage of the approaching interregnum, had appointed a convention to meet at Mont-

gomery, Alabama, and take measures for raising an army. They proposed, as part of their treasonable programme, to seize Washington, and prevent the inauguration of LINCOLN. Early in December, 1860, HOWELL COBB resigned the control of the treasury, giving as a reason its bankrupt and hopeless condition, and was succeeded by PHILIP F. THOMAS, who had been commissioner of patents. THOMAS resigned after a few weeks, being displeased with the attempt to reinforce Sumter. It was at this serious juncture that Attorney-General STANTON induced a number of leading capitalists of New York to demand from BUCHANAN the appointment of JOHN A. DIX as Secretary of the Treasury — a demand that was complied with. "For once," says Dr. DRAPER, speaking of the incalculable benefit that resulted to the cause of the Union from the presence of DIX in BUCHANAN'S cabinet, "for once the financial embarrassment of the nation proved its salvation. The condition of the treasury was deplorable. The government could do nothing without the aid of capitalists of New York. Through the influence of the Attorney-General, who was instructed by his own patriotism, and by the clear information of the existing imminent danger, a deputation of capitalists hastened to Washington and gave the President distinctly to understand that the treasury department must be placed in charge of one in whom they had confidence, and that they should not be satisfied unless JOHN A. DIX, of their State, was selected." A French writer, LAUGEL, says that STANTON, HOLT and DIX saved Washington to the Union; and, in the opinion of Dr. DRAPER, "the obligations of the republic to those three ministers can never be repaid."

General DIX was called to the cabinet on the 11th of January, 1861, and remained in it but little over a month, resigning at the close of BUCHANAN'S term. And, although his tenure of the treasury was so short, yet, within the limits of the narrow span of his life as a cabinet officer,

Treasury Department
Jan. 29, 1861

Tell Lieut. Caldwell to arrest
Capt. Freshwood, assume command
of the cutter and obey the order of game
through you. If Capt. Freshwood
after arrest undertakes to interfere
with the command of the cutter, tell
Lieut. Caldwell to consider him
as a mutineer & treat him accord-
ingly. If any one attempts to haul
down the American flag, shoot
him on the spot. -

Wm. A. R.
Secretary of the Treasury.

General DIX furnished a most striking exemplification of the poet's lines —

We live in deeds, not years.
He most lives
Who thinks most, feels the noblest, *acts the best.*

It was while he held this office, that he wrote his famous dispatch, whose *fac simile* we present on another page, which has well been characterized as "the most concentrated and burning war-cry of the Union." The circumstances under which it was written were these. General DIX had sent W. H. JONES as special agent of the treasury department, to secure three revenue cutters. JONES found one of them, the "McClelland," in the possession of the authorities of Alabama, and hastening to New Orleans, addressed a note to Captain BRESHWOOD, of that cutter, inclosing one from the Secretary of the Treasury, directing him to proceed immediately with his vessel to New York. BRESHWOOD at once replied, "Your letter, with one of the 19th of January, (1861) from the Honorable Secretary of the Treasury, I have duly received, and in reply, *refuse to obey* the order." JONES immediately communicated the fact of this refusal to the Secretary of the Treasury by telegraph, and further informed him that Collector HATCH of New Orleans, sustained the action of the rebel captain. It was under these circumstances, that General DIX promptly replied to JONES with a telegram, ending with that sentence touched with a live coal from the altar of patriotism, "IF ANY ONE ATTEMPTS TO HAUL DOWN THE AMERICAN FLAG, SHOOT HIM ON THE SPOT!" This order speedily became a proverb on every true American's lips, and GREELEY, in his American Conflict, most justly records that it "sent an electric thrill through the loyal heart of the country." Probably one of the highest, and certainly the most unique of the many compliments paid to DIX's battle-cry, emanated from a Sunday school scholar, at Akron, Ohio. MOORE, in his Rebellion

Record, tells of him. He was a lad of eleven, and on being requested with other members of his class, to repeat from the Bible a verse of his own selection, promptly gave the following: "If any one attempts to haul down the American flag, shoot him on the spot!"

In 1861 General DIX presided at the great meeting held in Union Square, New York, and made a great and effective speech, in the course of which he said: "I regard the pending contest with the secessionists as a death-struggle for constitutional liberty and law — a contest which, if successful on their part, could only end in the establishment of a despotic government, and blot out, wherever they were ascendant, every vestige of national freedom. We stand before the statue of the Father of his country; [the stand from which the General spoke was near the equestrian statue of Washington]; the flag of the Union which floats over it hung above him when he presided over the convention by which the constitution was framed. The great work of his life has been rejected, and the banner by which his labors were consecrated has been trampled in the dust. If the inanimate bronze, in which the sculptor has shaped his image, could be changed for the living form which led the armies of the Revolution to victory, he would command us, in the name of the hosts of patriots and political martyrs who have gone before, to strike for the defense of the Union and the Constitution." A few weeks after making this speech, General DIX was appointed Major-General in the army of the United States, and in August of the same year, 1861, he relieved General BANKS of the command of the department of Maryland, with his head-quarters at Baltimore. It was while he was in command at Baltimore that he manifested his military genius by a strategic movement which relieved the eastern shore of Maryland and Virginia from the rebel grasp.

General DIX was subsequently placed in command of Fortress Monroe, and in 1863 performed one of the best manœuvres of the campaign. In June he sent a portion of

his command to the White House, at the junction of the Pamunkey with the York river. In this position he threatened both Richmond and the communications of General LEE, who was advancing along the peninsula. This movement defeated all General LEE's plans, and so frightened JEFF. DAVIS that he wrote an appealing letter to General LEE, saying that it had "rendered him more anxious for the city than at any former time." In July the department of North Carolina was added to that of Virginia, and both placed under command of General DIX, until he was transferred to the command of the department of the east.

General DIX's general order to all provost marshals, with regard to rebel and other refugees in Canada, crossing the lines to vote at the presidential election in 1864, ordering their arrest, excited a great amount of attention at the time, and had the effect of checking such fraudulent voting, the election being one of the most peaceable ever witnessed. He also ordered that after the election, should any suspicious persons cross into Canada, they were to be detained until proper investigations could be made. He also organized the courts for the trial of JOHN Y. BEALL and R. C. KENNEDY, as spies, conspirators and incendiaries, during February and March, which resulted in their execution.

At the close of the war General DIX resigned his position in the army, and, renewing his interest in politics, joined his fortunes with the National Union party, of whose convention, at Philadelphia in the summer of 1866, he was chairman. In the same year he was appointed minister to France, after having declined the mission to the Hague, and was presented to the Emperor in January, 1867. As our national representative, he added to his own and his country's honor by discharging all his duties with the same distinguished ability that had marked his previous career of soldier and statesman. The prominent part he played in the famous *coup d'etat* of last winter, by which the Erie railroad was rescued from the ring who were running it for

their own aggrandizement, is too recent to need more than a passing mention here.

General DIX received his degree of Master of Arts from Brown University in 1820, and that of Doctor of Laws from Geneva College in 1845. He has found time in the pauses of his busy life to turn aside into his library long enough to turn out some literary work of a high order of merit, notably a book of travel, "A Winter in Madeira and A Summer in Spain and Florence." His speeches and occasional addresses and lectures have been compiled in two handsome volumes. The late General HALPINE, better known by his *nom de plume* of "Miles O'Reilly," the brilliant young Irishman who was for some time on General Dix's staff, in his racy reminiscences of the war, to which he gave the title of "Baked Meats," bears witness to the fine attainments of the General in classics and belle-lettres. He writes:

"General DIX, as should be known to every one, is an extremely elegant classical scholar, who has carried forward with him, through all the varied and valuable labors of his public life, an unfading love and continual study of those great masters of antiquity by whose precepts, and upon whose model, his own pure and noble mind was originally formed. Let any one who seeks to know the value of such an education contrast the dignity, urbanity and stainless integrity which have marked the life of this gentleman with the far different qualities for which many of our public men are alone to be distinguished, and we think a full answer will be given to the too common, though vulgar and senseless inquiry: 'Of what practical use are classical attainments?'"

After these prefatory words, MILES submits to his readers the following extremely literal and yet extremely elegant translation, by General DIX, of HORACE's famous ode (Liber III, Carmen xxx):

EXEGI MONUMENTUM ÆRE PERENNIUS.

I've reared a monument to fame
 More durable than solid brass,
 Which will, in loftiness of aim,
 The regal pyramids surpass.

No wasting shower, no rending storm
 Shall mar the work my genius rears;
 No lapse of time shall change its form,
 No countless series of years.

I shall not wholly die: my name
 Shall triumph o'er oblivion's power,
 And fresh, with still increasing fame,
 In glory posthumous shall tower,
 While to the Capitolium
 The Priest and Silent Virgin come.

Where Aufidus impetuous roars,
 And Daunus, held on arid shores
 Dominion o'er the rustic throng —
 Shall I, once weak — now potent — live
 As first of all the bards to give
 Æolian verse to Latin song.

Grant me, Melpomene divine!
 The glory due to deathless lays;
 Propitious to my vows incline
 And crown me with Appollo's bays!

His translations of *Dies Iræ* and *Stabat Mater* rank with the most successful renderings of those two great mediæval hymns into English.

The nomination which resulted in calling General Dix to the gubernatorial chair was not only unsought by him, but distinctly declined. But finding that the Republican convention at Utica deemed it of so much importance that his name should head the ticket as to place it there in opposition to his wishes, he waived his personal preferences and consented to become the standard-bearer. His triumph was such as any man might justly be proud of. In the entire State his vote led that of General GRANT, and in those local-

ities in which he was best known he proved strongest, as in Kings county, where he led the ticket by 5,000.

General DIX has already passed the allotted term of human life as laid down by the psalmist, and yet so erect, alert and vigorous is he, despite his three score and ten years, his eye not dim nor his natural force abated, that he stands to-day "the unwasted contemporary of his own prime."

THE GOVERNOR'S STAFF.

Governor DIX's military family is composed of the following members :

Maj.-Gen. JOHN F. RATHBONE, of Albany, *Adjutant-General*.

Brevet Maj.-Gen. WILLIAM H. MORRIS, of Cold Spring, *Inspector-General*.

Brig.-Gen. KILBURN KNOX, of New York, *Chief of Ordnance*.

Brig.-Gen. N. GANO DUNN, of New York, *Engineer-in-Chief*.

Brig.-Gen. J. HAMPDEN WOOD, of Albany, *Judge-Advocate-General*.

Brig.-Gen. WILLIAM M. SMITH, of Angelica, Allegany county, *Surgeon-General*.

Brig.-Gen. JOHN N. KNAPP, of Auburn, *Quartermaster-General*.

Brig.-Gen. RUFUS H. KING, of Albany, *Paymaster-General*.

Brig.-Gen. HENRY HEATH, of Brooklyn, *Commissary-General of Subsistence*.

Col. GEORGE G. HAVEN, of New York; Col. CHESTER GRISWOLD, of Troy; Col. ROBERT C. PRUYN, of Albany; Col. HAMILTON FISH, Jr., of New York; Col. WM. A. W. STEWART, of New York; Col. HIRAM P. HOPKINS, of Buffalo, *Aides-de-Camp*. *Military Secretary*, Col. SIDNEY DE KAY.

General RATHBONE has long shown a deep interest in the National Guard, and his distinction as the commanding officer for years of the Ninth Brigade, his high executive and organizing ability, combined to eminently fit him for the important position of Adjutant-General. He has long been the ardent friend of our State military organization. During the war, as the commandant of the Albany Depot of Volunteers and all the branch depots subsidiary to it, and having sometimes from twenty to forty thousand men under his immediate charge, he evinced great capacity for organization, and few men rendered such signal service in the preparation of New York's quota for the war of the Union.

General WILLIAM H. MORRIS, the Inspector-General, has served upon the staff as Commissary-General of Ordnance, and also in the army of the Union. He is a good soldier and a cultured gentleman. Gen. KNOX was for some time Captain of the 13th Regular Infantry, and subsequently served on the staff of General MCPHERSON. He is every way qualified for the honorable place assigned him. Gen. N. GANO DUNN, the Engineer-in-Chief, has been prominently identified with the military in New York, where he has acquired the reputation of a thorough and accomplished officer. General WOOD, the Judge-Advocate-General, is a young lawyer of honorable standing in his profession, and the highest personal worth. He is a son of Hon. BRADFORD R. WOOD, late American Minister to Denmark.

Gen. SMITH is a physician, occupying a front place in his profession.

Gen. JOHN N. KNAPP, Quartermaster-General, late the able and efficient secretary of the Republican State Committee, is a gentleman of high business and social position. The Paymaster-General, Gen. RUFUS H. KING, bears a name and is identified with a family honorably associated with the staff in the past, and is himself a genial, cultivated gentleman.

A word or two about the aides. Col. GEORGE G. HAVEN is a gentleman of high standing in the financial and social cir-

cles of the metropolis. Col. CHESTER GRISWOLD is the eldest son of the late Hon. JOHN A. GRISWOLD, and his appointment is a graceful testimony, both of the regard of Gov. DIX for the memory of his lamented father, and of his appreciation of the worth of the accomplished son. Col. ROBERT C. PRUYN is the son of Hon. ROBERT H. PRUYN, and is equally fitted for the position of Aide, by his military tastes and his gentlemanly bearing. Col. HAMILTON FISH, Jr., inherits not only the name but the culture of the distinguished Secretary of State. Col. WILLIAM A. W. STEWART is the son of JOHN A. STEWART, the well-known President of the Trust Company. Col. HIRAM P. HOPKINS is the son of Comptroller HOPKINS, and worthily represents the city which is honored in his selection.

Col. DE KAY got his practical military education by long and arduous service in our own war, and afterward in Greece, whither he went as a volunteer and nearly lost his life through a severe wound. Both from his legal and military acquirements he is peculiarly fitted to discharge the duties of the place to which the Governor has called him.



Mr. C. Robinson

JOHN C. ROBINSON,

LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.

Men often in a single sentence as perfectly reveal their ruling passion and peculiar traits of character, as in long years of public service. GRANT's saying, "We will fight it out on this line if it takes all summer," affords as clear an illustration of his sturdy persistency, as if he had written a score of volumes to prove that perseverance is the cardinal virtue.

General DIX's mental activity and proverbial promptitude found expression in his famous saying, "If any one hauls down the American flag, shoot him on the spot!" The sentence is an embodiment of uncompromising patriotism, and it affords a perfect illustration of the energetic character of the man. Scarcely less striking, and more epigrammatic was the expression made use of by the distinguished soldier, the present Lieutenant-Governor of New York, whose name stands at the head of this sketch. When General ROBINSON was leading his division, amid a shower of bullets, against Spottsylvania, he encouraged his followers with the battle-cry, "THIS PLACE MUST BE OURS." The words indicate that peculiar determination and courage which constitute the leading features in the General's character—features that are prominently brought out in a survey of his life.

JOHN CLEVELAND ROBINSON was born in Binghamton, Broome county, April 10, 1817. He entered the Military Academy in 1835, and remained there until 1838, when he began the study of law, but received in 1839 a commission as second lieutenant in the Fifth infantry. He was ordered to the Rio Grande in 1845, and was promoted to be first lieutenant during the Mexican war, in which he was distinguished at the battle of Monterey. At the close of that war he served with his regiment in Arkansas, in the Cherokee nation, and Texas; was made captain in 1850, and was after-

ward sent against the Indians in Florida. In 1857 he accompanied the army in Utah, and was placed in command of Fort Bridger. At the beginning of the civil war he commanded at Fort McHenry, Baltimore. When relieved from this duty he was sent to the West, as mustering officer, and remained as such until appointed colonel of the First Regiment of Michigan volunteers. He was promoted to be major of the Second infantry in February, 1862; was made brigadier-general of volunteers in the following April, and took command of a brigade at Newport News in May, but was soon ordered to the army of the Potomac, and placed in command of the First Brigade of KEARNEY's division, the corps of General HEINTZELMAN. He was distinguished during the seven days battles before Richmond, particularly those fought on June 30 and July 1, 1862, when he was slightly wounded. He participated in the Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, Centerville, Culpepper, Mine Run and Rapidan campaigns. When the army of the Potomac started on the overland campaign of 1864, General ROBINSON was in command of a division in the Fifth corps, and at the opening of the battle of Spottsylvania he was ordered to the advance on Todd's Tavern, with General SHERIDAN's cavalry. On reaching the Cross Roads, the enemy made a determined stand behind breastworks. An attempt was made to carry this position, which failed, when General ROBINSON, riding coolly up to the head of his men, said, "This place must be ours!" and asked his command to follow him.

The call was responded to with enthusiasm, and a charge was made. A terrible fire of musketry was encountered, and General ROBINSON received a bullet in his left knee, the wound rendering amputation of the thigh necessary. After his convalescence, General ROBINSON was unable to endure the fatigues of active duty, and was employed in various capacities until 1869, when he retired from active service with the full rank of Major-General. Since that date he has been

an active and efficient member of the Republican party, but has taken no very prominent part in public affairs.

During the extended military service of General ROBINSON, he passed through many thrilling incidents and perils. How he saved Fort McHenry at Baltimore from capture is well worth relating here. It was the first of the series of strategy which our government and our military commanders were so often obliged to resort to. He had with him only one hundred men; and, after the attack on the sixth Massachusetts in the streets of Baltimore, the rebels contemplated seizing on the fort, succeeding in which, they would have gained an advantage of the greatest importance. A steamer opportunely came in to coal, and General ROBINSON seized upon the event to create the impression that she had brought in reinforcements. He put up tents and made a display, seemingly of a large force of troops newly arrived and hastily accommodated. The ruse succeeded. The rebels thought their attack had been anticipated and prepared for; so Fort McHenry remained in our possession ever after, to declare to the rebels that, even though they captured Washington, it would be of no permanent advantage to them.

General ROBINSON, with all the austerity of a military nature, yet has a very kindly heart. He is a thorough republican; loves the people, and has an abiding faith in their capacity to govern themselves. He is inclined to sociability, when once his "outworks of reserve" are penetrated, and he then becomes as communicative as any one could wish.

In the convention which nominated General ROBINSON for Lieutenant-Governor, several admirable names were suggested. Senator THAYER, of Troy, the chief competitor, had hosts of warm friends, and would have peculiarly graced the position. But the soldierly qualities of General ROBINSON gained him the day. His supporters adopted his motto, and gained success to the cry "this place (on the ticket) shall

be ours." The career of General ROBINSON is well known to the people. One of the most gallant and distinguished soldiers of the Empire State, his record in the war is of the brightest lustre. His comrades in arms presented him with a unanimity and a zeal which showed their high appreciation of his great soldierly worth; and the people of the State elected him by a most flattering vote.

General ROBINSON presides over the Senate with dignity, courtesy, and strict impartiality. Not a skillful parliamentarian, he impresses political friend and opponent alike with the honesty of his intentions and as a consequence his rulings are rarely appealed from. In addition to his duties as President of "The Upper House," the General is a member of the Canal Board, is one of the commissioners of the Land Office, and of the Canal fund, is a trustee of the Capital, State Lunatic Asylum and State Hall, and, *ex officio*, one of the Regents of the University.

DIEDRICH WILLERS, JR.,**SECRETARY OF STATE.**

In the person of the present Secretary of State, we have the first example, under our present State Constitution, of an elective State officer who has arisen through the various gradations, from the lowest round of the ladder to the topmost, through the positions of Clerk and Deputy, to that of head of the Department, a notable instance of the workings of "Civil Service Reform."

Mr. WILLERS was born of German parentage, in the town of Varick, county of Seneca, where he still resides, on the third day of November, 1833.

His father, Reverend DIEDRICH WILLERS, D. D., a native of Bremen, Germany, who is still living at the advanced age of seventy-six years (left an orphan in early childhood), was educated in the public schools of his native city, and at the age of sixteen years enlisted in the army of Hanover, for the defense of his fatherland, against the French invader. He was an active participant with the allied forces under the Duke of Wellington at the memorable three days' battle of Waterloo, in Belgium, in June, 1815, against Napoleon Bonaparte, and received a silver medal for bravery in action.

After a military service of five years, he left the army, and having spent a short time with his friends, he embarked for America, in the year 1819, and landed in Baltimore, Maryland, in October of that year, with only a few dollars in his pocket, but possessed of industry and perseverance, those indispensable requisites to success. Following a purpose formed in early life, he took up the study of theology, to which he had previously given much thought and reading. After a course of study under private tutors, he was licensed in the ministry and accepted a call to preach to congregations in Seneca county, New York, in April, 1821,

and has continued in the uninterrupted discharge of ministerial duty, preaching in the German and English languages to his congregations in that county, to the present time, a continuous period of nearly fifty-three years.

As a clergyman he is highly esteemed and influential in his denomination, and a number of years ago received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity, from Franklin and Marshall College, at Lancaster, Penn.

The mother of Secretary WILLERS, still living, was born in New Holland, Lancaster county, Penn., of German parentage, her ancestry having migrated to this country, from the Palatinate, over 150 years ago.

The subject of our sketch was the sixth of a family of eight children. Every one familiar with "life in a country parsonage" will know something of the trials and privations of the hard-worked and poorly-paid country pastor.

It is not to be wondered at that young WILLERS thus early became accustomed to a life of toil. Residing in a rural community, his time was divided between working upon a farm in summer and attending a district school in winter.

With the exception of two terms of instruction at the Seneca Falls Academy, during one of which, in 1853, he recited to Gilbert C. Walker, late Governor of the State of Virginia, his course of study was confined to the district school; and to instruction in German and the classics with his father. When inquiry is made as to his *Alma Mater*, Mr. WILLERS always frankly states that he is a graduate of a people's college, "School District Number Two, Varick."

Subsequently, Mr. WILLERS engaged in teaching in the district schools of his town, commencing his first term at the early age of sixteen, at a compensation of twelve dollars per month, and boarding himself, and continuing in this vocation, when not laboring upon a farm, during five or six years.

After Mr. WILLERS had arrived at the age of twenty-two years, he entered a printing office with a view to learn the printing business, and enter upon an editorial career, he

having been a frequent contributor to the political press; but, after a service at the printer's case of about two months, he was reluctantly compelled to abandon a cherished pursuit, by reason of ill-health, from which he suffered for several years.

Having, at intervals of toil, devoted himself to the reading of law and attended a course of instruction at the Albany Law University, he was admitted to practice as an attorney at law a number of years ago, although he has never actively engaged in the practice of his profession.

Designed by his father for the ministry, he however early took a decided interest in politics, and long before he was twenty-one years of age, espoused the cause of the Democratic party, joining the Hard-Shell branch of the Democracy, and casting his first vote for Judge GREENE C. BRONSON, for Governor, in 1854. After the re-union of the party in 1856, MR. WILLERS took a very active part in the presidential canvass of that year, as well as in 1857.

Upon the election of the Democratic State ticket, in the fall of 1857, Mr. W. was appointed by Hon. GIDEON J. TUCKER, Secretary of State, to a clerkship in his office, upon the duties of which position he entered in January following, and in which, by his industry and faithfulness, he soon won the confidence of his chief, and was re-appointed by Hon. DAVID R. FLOYD JONES, and served with him during his term as Secretary of State in 1860 and 1861.

Although Mr. WILLERS actively supported Mr. JONES for re-election, and the Democratic ticket, in the campaign of November, 1861, he was, without solicitation upon his part, re-appointed by Hon. HORATIO BALLARD, and remained in the office of the Secretary of State during the years 1862 and 1863.

Upon the expiration of Mr. BALLARD's term, Mr. WILLERS was appointed by Governor SEYMOUR as his Private Secretary, and served as such during the most trying period of the late civil war.

How well Mr. WILLERS served in this capacity, the complimentary remarks made by Governor SEYMOUR, in the Democratic State Convention at Utica, in October, 1873, upon the occasion of Mr. WILLERS' second nomination for Secretary of State, will best attest, when he said :

“Having known Mr. WILLERS for many years, having been closely associated with him in the discharge of duty, I can say that in my opinion there is no man in the State whom I could vote for, for this position, with more pleasure than I can vote for DIEDRICH WILLERS, Jr. He is not only an honorable, capable and honest man, but a faithful one. During all the time he was in that office, he was never known to be absent from his post of duty. For this office you want a man who will faithfully discharge its duties himself, and Mr. WILLERS is the man of all others to do this. It is no mere form, when we take up a man who has performed his duties at the lowest round of the ladder, and lift him to the highest. It means that there is true merit in the man. I have known Mr. WILLERS long and well, as I have already said. I knew him all through the trying time, when I was Governor, and of all the men surrounding me and my office, I found no man upon whom I could rely with more implicit confidence.”

Retiring, at the close of his term of service with Governor SEYMOUR in December, 1864, to his home in Seneca county, Mr. WILLERS resumed his old occupation as a farmer, and in March, 1865, was elected supervisor of his native town, and was re-elected the year following, serving as chairman of the board both years, and rendering great assistance to his town and county in the adjustment of war accounts, at the close of the war.

In March, 1867, Mr. WILLERS was appointed, by President JOHNSON, to a clerkship in the office of the Second Auditor of the Treasury, at Washington, D. C., which position he held to the close of that year.

The Democratic State ticket having been elected in the fall of 1867, Mr. WILLERS was appointed by Hon. HOMER A. NELSON as Deputy Secretary of State, which position he

filled with great acceptance to the public for four years, developing executive ability of a high order.

In the summer of 1871, the name of Mr. WILLERS was extensively canvassed by the Democratic press for the nomination of Secretary of State, Secretary NELSON declining a renomination in favor of his deputy.

After a sharp preliminary canvass, during which nearly all the older or managing politicians of the party opposed his nomination, the friends of Mr. WILLERS being strongly in the ascendancy at the Democratic State Convention at Rochester, he was nominated by acclamation for Secretary of State.

Although the Democratic State ticket was borne down by adverse circumstances in the disastrous campaign of 1871, Mr. WILLERS handsomely led his associates upon the ticket, receiving the highest vote cast for any nominee of his party in that year.

At the beginning of the year 1872, Mr. WILLERS received from Governor HOFFMAN the appointment of Assistant Paymaster General with the rank of Colonel, and was detailed for duty in the Executive Chamber, in charge of the examination of bills passed by the Legislature, for which his extensive acquaintance with statutory law and the machinery of our State Government particularly fitted him.

Upon retiring from the Executive Chamber, Mr. WILLERS received, in January, 1873, an appointment as one of the Secretaries of the Constitutional Commission, then in session at Albany.

After the final adjournment of the Commission in March, 1873, Mr. WILLERS returned to his home and again resumed labor upon his father's farm, where he devoted himself to the active duties of farm life during the year.

His name having been canvassed by the Democratic press for the nomination for Secretary of State, Mr. WILLERS was again strongly opposed by active leading political managers who usually make up the party slates, but after a sharp can-

vass, and notwithstanding a factious opposition in the Convention, he was again unanimously nominated by the Democratic State Convention held at Utica, and his nomination was indorsed at the Liberal Republican State Convention held at Elmira, in the same month.

The result of the election was favorable to the Democracy, and Mr. WILLERS was declared elected Secretary of State by about 10,000 majority.

Mr. WILLERS entered upon his office with an intimate knowledge of the duties thereof and of the machinery of the State Government, and having an extensive acquaintance with the politics and public men of the State.

Emphatically a man of the people, self-made, a determined enemy of all rings and monopolies, aiming at the rights of the people; courteous, attentive, faithful and capable, he entered upon office under the most favorable auspices.

Although active as a Democratic politician, and a frequent delegate at State and County Conventions, he has preserved a deserved personal popularity wherever he is best known, and when running as a candidate he received the highest majority ever given to a Democratic nominee in his town and county.

Reserved and modest in demeanor, firm and decided in his convictions of duty, Mr. WILLERS has always carefully guarded the public interests, and is, in the true sense of the term, a "Reformer."

Having never embarked in matrimony, it is no wonder that Mr. WILLERS has been so closely wedded to his State.

It is a somewhat curious coincidence, that Mr. WILLERS was born in the first year of the term of Hon. JOHN A. DIX, as Secretary of State, in 1833.

The career of Mr. WILLERS affords another illustration how, under our form of Government, the humblest citizen may, by pursuing right paths, attain to high positions of honor and trust.



Nelson K. Hopkins

NELSON K. HOPKINS,

COMPTROLLER.

The family of Hon. NELSON K. HOPKINS, Comptroller of the State, was of New England origin. His father, General TIMOTHY S. HOPKINS, emigrated in the year 1800 from Great Barrington, Mass., to Williamsville, a small town in the vicinity of Buffalo, in the then county of Niagara. By occupation a farmer, he was a man of sterling sense and worth, and held various public offices of trust and honor, both in the civil and military service. He was commissioned as a Captain by Gov. GEORGE CLINTON, as Major, by Gov. MORGAN LEWIS, and as Lieutenant-Colonel and Brigadier-General, by Gov. DANIEL D. TOMPKINS. NELSON, the second of the five sons now living, was born on the 2d of March, 1819. He remained on the farm until he was about sixteen years of age, when he attended school for a time at Fredonia, in the county of Chautauqua. From 1838 to 1840, he was a student in the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary at Lima, where he completed his collegiate preparations, and in the spring of the latter year entered the sophomore class of Union College, graduating in 1842 with high standing. Among his class-mates were several who have since attained distinction, including Hon. CLARKSON N. POTTER, member of Congress, and Hon. JAMES WOOD, late of the State Senate. In connection with the latter, an interesting circumstance is related of young HOPKINS. The two students, as was not unfrequent among their associates, visited Albany on one occasion, and neither being blessed with a surplus of money, they found themselves, at the close of their stay, without the means of returning. In this exigency, nothing daunted, the spirited young men started on foot, and faithfully trudged all the way from Albany to Schenectady.

Even before entering college, the subject of this sketch had

evinced strong force of character and energy of purpose. At the age of nineteen, he had been elected captain of a company in the State militia, and at the time of the "Patriot War," which centered about the Niagara river, though still a student at Lima, he was called home to enter the service with his company, and for a month had command of Black Rock in the vicinity of Buffalo. Returning from college, Mr. HOPKINS began the study of law in the office of Hon. ELBRIDGE G. SPAULDING, at Buffalo, and, in 1846, was admitted as an attorney. From the very first, he has enjoyed an honorable and lucrative practice. He has especially had confided to him the most delicate duties in the settlement of estates, the establishment of titles and all that branch of professional service, and, in these positions of fiduciary trust, has secured the highest respect for his honor, fidelity and capacity. In 1848, he married the only daughter of Hon. ORLANDO ALLEN. This union was severed by death in 1853. In 1855 he married his present wife, who is the eldest daughter of the late Hon. HIRAM PRATT, and a most estimable lady. His family consists of five children, one by his first wife and four by his second.

Although Mr. HOPKINS has always been actively engaged in professional labors, he has, at various times, been called to serve his fellow-citizens. Frequently elected supervisor and alderman, he was also one year president of the common council. In 1866, he was appointed Collector of Internal Revenue, and filled that position with credit and satisfaction. He has also been for many years a director and attorney of White's Bank at Buffalo; attorney for the Western Savings Bank; life-member of the Young Men's Association; trustee of the Free Grosvenor Library, and has held many positions of public and professional trust, attesting the high esteem with which he is regarded by the community where he lives. Such was the great respect entertained for him by those among whom he has always resided, and such their elevated opinion, especially of the conscientiousness and ability for

financial administration which he has displayed throughout his career, that, without his own solicitation or knowledge, he was unanimously presented by the Erie delegation at the Republican State Convention of 1871, as a candidate for Comptroller, and promptly nominated. He and his associates were recognized as embodying the reform sentiment then so pronounced among the people, and the ticket was elected by a handsome majority.

Mr. HOPKINS having served the State for two years, and made a shining reputation for ability and integrity, the delegates to the Republican State Convention of 1873 were unanimously of the opinion that one good term, such as his, pre-eminently deserved another, and, accordingly, when the time came to name a candidate for Comptroller, NELSON K. HOPKINS was renominated by acclamation, amid the hearty applause of the convention. This nomination was also made by the Liberals, and, on election day, the people handsomely ratified it. Mr. HOPKINS, although he was figured out badly defeated the morning after the November election, was a few days after shown, by the official vote, to have been successful by a majority of 4,065. This result, in view of the fact that the rest of the State ticket met with very "heavy weather," was peculiarly gratifying. It was celebrated in a befitting manner by the members of the Republican General Committee and the Unconditional Political Club of Albany, who, accompanied by a goodly number of the other leading Republicans of the city, serenaded, paid their respects and offered their congratulations to Mr. HOPKINS a few evenings after his election. Governor DIX, who was serenaded on the route, made a speech, in which he said :

FELLOW-CITIZENS—I am greatly obliged to you for this friendly call on me. It is the more gratifying because it affords me the opportunity of saying to you how cordially I concur in the principal object of your demonstration to-night—to congratulate Mr. HOPKINS on his re-election to the office of Comptroller of the State. His success, and the popular approval he has received, are a just and well-merited

tribute to a faithful, efficient and conscientious public officer. Indeed, I should have regarded his defeat, at this juncture, as a calamity to the State. We all know that in past years, and years not very remote, there has been in the administration of our finances much which was loose, much which was unauthorized and wasteful, and some things which, in my judgment, were in violation of our faith to public creditors. These wrongs I know Mr. HOPKINS to be earnestly desirous of redressing, and I do not doubt that, with the co-operation of the Legislature, the good work may be accomplished within the time for which he has been re-elected.

The Comptroller himself was found in one of the spacious parlors of Congress Hall, and an informal reception was held, during which nearly all of the Republicans present took advantage of the opportunity afforded to personally congratulate him on his re-election and the victory he had achieved. Hand-shaking over, the party proceeded to the front of the building, and after several airs had been performed by the band, Mr. H. made his appearance on the piazza, and, after being introduced to the large crowd in attendance by the Chairman of the Central Committee, he spoke as follows:

CITIZENS OF ALBANY — Accept my sincere thanks for the compliment of this beautiful serenade. I do not receive it as personal to myself, but as an expression of your satisfaction at the popular indorsement, so far as they were represented in my candidacy, of the principles and the public policy to which we are all equally attached. However glad I should personally feel to be relieved of the onerous duties of the Comptrollership, I share your congratulations upon the measure of success which attends our good cause. Beyond sincerely shrinking from another term of the always exacting and seldom agreeable labors of the office, my gratification in this hour of rejoicing, like yours, is only tempered by the reflection that some of your excellent and worthy candidates have been defeated at the polls. But it is a matter of satisfaction that the canvass through which we have passed has been marked, on both sides, by so little of personal criticism, and has left so little of personal feeling, and I trust that it may be found that the officers you have chosen, and who

will be associated in the administration of public affairs, however much they may differ in their political affiliations, will be able to rise above all merely partisan considerations and work together in harmony for the public good.

The great need of the present time is honesty and economy in the management of public trusts. It is a time to enforce retrenchment of expenditures, reduction of taxation and relief of the popular burdens whenever practicable. During the period of my service I have tried faithfully to fulfill these duties, and, so far as the popular expression is an approval of these labors, it will be an encouragement and a stimulus to still more earnest efforts in the same direction. If, in this capacity, I can render any aid to the illustrious and honored statesman whose administration as Chief Magistrate of the State is so entirely and successfully devoted to the public welfare, and so universally applauded by the people, it will be to me a source of peculiar and heartfelt consolation and pleasure.

None of his predecessors have received more general and cordial commendation than Mr. HOPKINS has for the sleepless vigilance with which he has guarded the interests of the State and the marked ability with which he has administered its finances. At the outset, Mr. HOPKINS adopted the rule of giving the most careful scrutiny to every matter coming before him, and this rule he has scrupulously observed, transacting the business of the State with the same care and watchfulness and frugality which he would carry into the conduct of private business. He reduced the number of assistants in his office, subjected every claim to rigorous inspection, and made the auditing of accounts something more than a mere ministerial duty. So great is the confidence felt in his integrity and discretion that the Legislature has vested him with larger powers over the expenditure of appropriations in connection with public institutions than were ever before confided to the Comptroller, and it is not an undue estimate to say that by his prudence and firmness he has saved the State at least half a million dollars. Not only in his practical administration of the department, but in his official discussions and recommendations, he has

shown conspicuous talent for the position. His annual reports presented to the Legislature have attracted unusual attention, and commanded the hearty and unreserved approbation of men and journals of all parties, for their incomparably clear exposition of State finances, and their valuable suggestions. The general judgment is that they fairly rank among the best of our State papers.

Always among his own neighbors, and now throughout the State, Comptroller HOPKINS is respected for his unswerving probity, his sound judgment, and his large ability. Personally he is a man of strong friendships, warmly attaching to himself those with whom he is brought into contact. Frank, direct and outspoken, he is at the same time cordial and unaffected, and his fine, clear-cut features express at once a firm decision of character and winning amiability of disposition.

DANIEL PRATT,

ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

HON. DANIEL PRATT, Attorney-General, was born in Washington county in 1806 — a county which gave birth to such well known men as Judges SAVAGE, COWAN, GRAY, PARKER, BACON and Judge NELSON of the Supreme Court of the United States. The parents of Judge PRATT were of New England origin, and in early life the mind of their son was imbued with the positive qualities and sturdy strength that characterized the descendants of the Pilgrims. Judge PRATT's boyhood was passed in attending school in the winter, and working on his father's farm at other times. At school he easily led all the scholars, and was recognized as the brightest boy in all the region round. At the age of eighteen he taught a district school, and was looked upon by every one as a prodigy.

In early life he placed his mark high and determined to work his way up to it, unaided by any one. Entering Cambridge Academy, Washington county, at the age of twenty-one, he remained there fifteen months. In 1833, he entered the junior class of Union College — a class of which, it is interesting to note, WILLIAM CASSIDY, the late brilliant and accomplished editor of the *Argus*, was a member. So complete and thorough was his preparation that he found no difficulty in entering this advanced class. Mathematics and Greek were his favorite studies, and to these and the rest of his curriculum, he devoted twelve hours out of every twenty-four. He graduated in 1835, taking the highest honors in his class. Then the struggle with the world for fame really began. He determined to strike out into new fields, and journeyed to Memphis on a visit to an acquaintance. He remained there some time employed in teaching a select school, where he made the acquaintance of the late D. D.

HILLS, at that time a lawyer in Camillus. Mr. HILLS was greatly impressed by the strength of mind and brilliant talents of his new acquaintance, and invited him to study law in his office.

Judge PRATT studied hard and determined to master the intricacies of his arduous profession, not content with merely grasping the rudiments. In 1836 he was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court. He removed with Mr. HILLS to Syracuse, and formed a copartnership with him. The firm at once took a front rank in a profession already overcrowded and adorned by leading minds. Their business relations continued until 1843.

Under the Constitution prior to 1846, the judges were appointed by the Governor and Senate, and in 1843, Governor WILLIAM C. BOUCK appointed DANIEL PRATT Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Onondaga county, a position he held until the Constitution of 1846 went into operation in the beginning of 1848. For four years he held this position, discharging his onerous duties with an impartiality, fairness and justice that won the admiration of the entire bar of the State. His opinions and decisions, officially promulgated, were characterized by sound judgment, practical common sense and eminent learning, which characteristics are the important elements of his character. The Constitution of 1846 divided the State into eight judicial districts, and the Democracy of the counties of Onondaga, Oneida, Oswego, Herkimer, Jefferson and Lewis, forming the Fifth Judicial District, nominated Mr. PRATT as one of their candidates for Supreme Court Judge. He was triumphantly elected, and discharged the duties so acceptably that he was renominated in 1851, and re-elected, serving until January, 1859. His career as a judge met the approval of all parties by reason of his impartiality, while his opinions on cases brought before him were considered among the ablest that issued from any judge on the bench of the State.

Upon his retirement from the bench, Judge PRATT formed

a partnership with D. J. MITCHELL, Esq., one of the most brilliant advocates in the State, and WILBER M. BROWN, an eminent office lawyer. The firm at once took a commanding position as one of the strongest in the State, and still continues. Judge PRATT was appointed by Governor HOFFMAN a member of the Constitutional Commission, where he at once took a leading position by his sound judgment, his great legal ability, and his eminent learning. His position in the profession is also shown by the fact that the Impeachment Committee of the Assembly of 1872 selected him as one of their counsel to conduct the celebrated trial of the notorious Judge BARNARD. In politics Judge PRATT has always been a Democrat and an unwavering supporter of the party.

Judge PRATT was elected to his present honorable and responsible position by a majority of 10,111 over BENJAMIN D. SILLIMAN. The *Syracuse Courier*, to whom we are indebted for many of the facts in the above sketch, in summing up a brief biographical notice of the present Attorney-General of the State, says:

Judge PRATT is a positive man whose clear and quick perceptions, sound judgment and practical common sense impress most forcibly all who come in contact with him. As a citizen he is universally esteemed and respected, while his charitable nature always displayed in an unostentatious manner has endeared him to those toward whom it has been exercised. As a lawyer, Judge PRATT occupies the front rank in the profession. Firm as a rock when battling for the right, his mind is unswayed by extraneous circumstances. His integrity is acknowledged by all, and not a breath of suspicion was ever raised by a political or legal foe. Judge PRATT is a Democrat of the Jeffersonian school. He is a Democrat from principle, and his wisdom and counsels are often consulted by party leaders. He will add dignity to the office.

THOMAS RAINES,

STATE TREASURER.

THOMAS RAINES, the present Treasurer of the State of New York, is one of the youngest men ever chosen by the people for a position of so much importance. He is now in his thirty-second year, and was first called to preside over the Treasury when but twenty-nine. The American people, however, have regard rather to ability than years, agreeing with the Earl of Chatham, that youth is not that sort of an "atrocious crime" which stands in need of any palliation or denial.

Mr. RAINES was born at Canandaigua, Ontario county, N. Y., on the 13th of August, 1842. He is of English descent on his father's side, and Scotch on his mother's. His grandfather, JOHN RAINES, a sturdy Englishman, was born in 1784. At the early age of twenty-eight he had acquired a large fortune in mercantile pursuits, and, notwithstanding the cares of business, had found time while amassing it to fulfill the duties of the sacred office. He was the regularly installed minister of a Methodist congregation, and had intimate relations with the celebrated divine, ROBERT HALL, and other illustrious contemporaries.

We believe the historians are not at one, as yet, as to the *cause* that induced the return of Napoleon from his island retreat at Elba, but very many men in England, France and elsewhere, knew too well the *effect* of the re-appearance of the Little Corporal. JOHN RAINES was one of these, and his financial losses were so heavy as to induce him to gather up the remnants of his broken fortune and try to better his condition in America. In the year 1821, the merchant-minister arrived at Philadelphia, and soon after commenced the business of manufacturing at that point. The usual ups and downs marked his life in the City of Brotherly Love, and

after being twice burned out, and declining an offer of partnership from the since celebrated THOMAS TASKER, he abandoned the Keystone for the Empire State, and took up his residence at Canandaigua.

The father of the Treasurer, another JOHN RAINES, was born at Hull, in the East Riding of Yorkshire, England, in the year 1818. While yet an infant he was brought to this country by his parents, and here he has resided ever since.

After leaving school, and until his twenty-seventh year, he followed farming for a living. He then abandoned secular pursuits and entered the ministry. For many years he was widely known in Western New York, being recognized as standing among the foremost of his Methodist brethren. Mrs. RAINES, the mother of the subject of our sketch, was a Miss MARY REMINGTON. Her ancestors came from New England, but she herself was born near Canandaigua.

The leading facts in the life of the Treasurer are about as follows:

After receiving the usual common school education, and supplementing it with a good deal of self-taught instruction, he closed his text-books at the early age of fourteen. Those who think they can see the coming oak in every acorn, will be interested in knowing that the future financial head of the State left behind him, at the common school from which he graduated, a reputation for unusual proficiency in mathematics. Commencing his business life on the bottom round of the long ladder, he accepted a clerkship in a store at Lyons, Wayne county, in this State, at an annual salary of one hundred dollars. His industry, talents and determination soon led to his promotion, and at the age of sixteen he had charge of the books of a large mercantile establishment. A little later we find him book-keeper in the Bank of Canandaigua, in which institution his education in fiscal matters fairly commenced. Keeping the books of the bank for a year, he developed so much capacity as a banker that he was promoted to be acting cashier.

At the age of twenty, Mr. RAINES had attained a broad and accurate knowledge of the important and intricate branch of business to which he had resolved to devote his future, and, in connection with a number of capitalists of western New York, he then proceeded to start a National Bank, one of the first, it may be remarked, ever organized in the country. This bank was located at Geneva, Ontario county, and, under the management of Mr. RAINES, enjoyed a high degree of prosperity.

In 1867 he removed to Rochester, and at the age of twenty-four, became financial officer of the Farmers and Mechanics' National Bank of Rochester. In this position, as in his preceding ones, he has been eminently successful, and has built up a large business.

On the 29th of December, 1864, Mr. RAINES was married to CHARRIE, daughter of Hon. JOSEPH HALSTEAD, of Columbia county. She died on the 5th of March, 1870, to the poignant grief of a large circle of friends. A lady of high intellectual endowment, and the possessor of varied accomplishments, she was in very deed and truth a helpmeet for her husband. Whatever of prosperity may have attended the later years of his life, he attributes, for the major part, to her wise counsels, and her unfailing sympathy in all his undertakings.

At the Republican State Convention, which met at Rochester, in September, 1871, Mr. RAINES was nominated by acclamation for the position which he now holds. In the canvass that followed, he made a most gallant fight, and gained the day by an overwhelming majority. The estimation in which he is held by his fellow-citizens is shown in the fact of his running nearly a thousand ahead of the State ticket in Rochester. When a prophet (or a banker) comes no nearer than that from "being without honor in his own country," the conclusion is irresistible that his neighbors have entire confidence in the prophet (or banker). Mr. RAINES' entire

-

majority in the State was 21,784; he polled the highest vote on the ticket.

Mr. RAINES was for many years an active and ardent Republican. Sympathizing, however, with the Liberal movement, he attended the Cincinnati Convention and helped place HORACE GREELEY in nomination for the Presidency. His position and ability received suitable recognition from the Convention, he being chosen one of its Vice-Presidents. Since that time Mr. RAINES has acted with the Liberals, and is recognized as one of the leaders of his party in this State. At the Democratic Convention, called to nominate a State ticket, at Utica, in September last, Mr. RAINES was named by acclamation for the office which he now holds, by virtue of a re-election. The mutations of our politics is thus strikingly illustrated — a renomination and election at the hands of Democrats and Liberals following directly after a nomination and election at the hands of Republicans! Although he was embarrassed in his canvass by the defalcation of one of his clerks, which came to light soon after his name was hoisted, yet, nevertheless, he led all the nominees on the State ticket, save the State Engineer, and secured his election by the handsome majority of 12,630.

Since his induction into the office which he now holds, Mr. RAINES has justified the high expectations of his friends, demonstrating both his capacity and disposition to wisely administer the finances of the State.

Entering office without particular political experience, but with the training and aptitude of a successful banker, he at once displayed quick apprehensions, a ready grasp of public questions, a clear insight into State polity and a broad understanding, especially of its fiscal interests and public works. He initiated in the Canal Board, at an early day, a direct movement for the repeal of the repair contracts. Mr. RAINES undertook the task of pushing it into operation, and brought the question to a direct issue by a series of resolutions, presented in the board shortly after his entrance into office. He

was the prime mover in the adoption of the low-toll sheet of 1872 and 1873, having prepared the schedule and offered it in the Canal Board. He gave effect to the general desire for cheap transportation, sharing the common fear of the diversion of commerce from New York. It was mainly through his efforts that the State resumed specie payments on its bonds. Holding that the good faith of the State required it to meet these obligations in coin, he took an honorable share in securing the adoption of a policy so conducive to public credit. The estimation in which Mr. RAINES was held by those who differed with him politically, is shown in the tribute paid him by the *Democrat and Chronicle*, the leading Republican paper of Rochester, at a time last fall when the danger of his becoming the nominee of the Democracy was among the possibilities. The following is an extract from the *Democrat and Chronicle*, September 15, 1873:

“He made, early in his career, an earnest effort to secure a thorough investigation of the whole management of canal affairs. Believing, from personal observation, and the inspection of the records of his department, that the popular suspicions as to its extravagance and corruption were not unfounded, he called upon the Legislature for a complete examination. His speeches delivered before the Canal Committee of the Assembly, last winter, on the necessity of retrenchment in canal expenditures, created universal interest. Mr. RAINES carried his point in reducing the appropriations to the extent of a million dollars, a curtailment due almost entirely to his individual efforts. In the Canal Board he has steadily opposed all fraudulent claims, extravagant allowances and profligate jobs, exercising ceaseless vigilance in detecting and baffling every species of dishonesty which is continually endeavoring to obtain a foothold in this department of the public works.”

By virtue of his office, Mr. RAINES is a Commissioner of the Land Office and of the Canal Fund, a member of the Board of State Canvassers, and, as we have already indicated, of the Canal Board.

SYLVANUS H. SWEET,

STATE ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR.

SYLVANUS H. SWEET, State Engineer and Surveyor, is a native of Oswego county, New York, and is a son of the late GARRET C. SWEET, of Phoenix, Oswego county. He commenced his professional career under O. W. CHILDS, Esq., in the year 1847. In 1850 and 1851, he was engaged under Mr. CHILDS in making a survey for a Ship Canal across the Isthmus of Nicaragua, in Central America, and opening of the Nicaragua Transit Route, for California traffic and travel, under Commodore VANDERBILT.

Upon his return, he received an appointment upon the New York State canals, in 1852, where, owing to great diligence and application, he remained undisturbed through all the political changes of the next eight years, and in 1860, through the earnest application and recommendation of Hon. VAN R. RICHMOND, the then State Engineer and Surveyor, was appointed by a Republican Canal Board Resident Engineer at Syracuse. While holding this position, he compiled and perfected a complete set of plans of the most important canal structures, which were published in connection with the State Engineer's report for 1860.

Upon his removal, Mr. RICHMOND appointed him principal assistant, under O. W. CHILDS, on the "New York Harbor Encroachment Survey." By reason of his skill and characteristic energy, Mr. SWEET had the honor of being the first to establish, successfully, the original high and low water lines around Manhattan Island and the shores of Brooklyn, from which the first map was published in 1861, showing these lines.

Upon the election of WILLIAM B. TAYLOR as State Engineer, in 1862, he was tendered and accepted the position of Deputy State Engineer. During his term as Deputy, Mr. SWEET devoted his leisure hours to writing a complete "History of the New York Canals," a work embracing 384

pages; also a history of the Hudson River Improvements, some thirty or forty pages in length, and a scientific report of great practical value on coal. This last work, contained in about 100 pages, set forth the cost of coal over different routes to market. It was furnished, upon call, to the Senate during the session of 1864, and was read with interest by coal consumers generally, since it contained all the information necessary to a full and clear understanding of the actual cost of the commodity treated of in market.

During the war (1865), he was the nominee of the Democratic party for the same position he now holds, and although running ahead of the ticket about 4,000, was defeated with his party when all placed upon the ticket—made up of JOHN VAN BUREN, Gen. H. W. SLOCUM, LUCIUS ROBINSON, etc.—were vanquished by the war cry.

In 1865-6, Mr. SWEET had charge of surveys, plans and estimates for a canal across the State of Maryland, from Washington to Annapolis, thence along the shore of Chesapeake to Baltimore, thereby saving in distance between these points 190 miles, and the danger of navigating the bay with small crafts, and perfecting an inland canal navigation from Albany or New York to Washington, upon a scale of navigation equal to the Delaware & Raritan.

Upon the election of Hon. VAN R. RICHMOND for State Engineer and Surveyor, in 1868, Mr. SWEET was tendered and accepted the position of Deputy, which he held during the two terms of Mr. RICHMOND's administration, serving also as Engineer and Inspector of the New Capitol, which latter position he retained after the defeat of his party in the fall of 1871.

Mr. SWEET received the nomination from the Democratic party at a convention held at Utica, in the fall of 1873, for State Engineer and Surveyor. He was also nominated at the Liberal Convention held at Elmira the same fall, and was elected to that office, receiving a majority some 4,000 larger than any of his associates on the ticket.

SENATORS.

JAMES W. BOOTH.

The fifth Senatorial district consists of the eighth, ninth, fifteenth and sixteenth wards of the city of New York. It is represented in the present Senate by JAMES W. BOOTH who was born in the city of New York, on the ninth of September, 1822. After receiving a good education in various private schools in that city, he turned his attention to mercantile pursuits with marked success. As a dyer and manufacturer of cotton goods he was long known to the world of trade no less for his business sagacity than for his integrity. At present Mr. BOOTH is not actively engaged in business, being one of those fortunate mortals to whom effort has brought the wherewithal on which to complacently retire from the noisy marts of trade.

In politics Mr. BOOTH was for many years a Whig, but since the formation of the Republican party he has been an ardent supporter of that organization. Until nominated for the Senate he had never been prevailed upon to accept a political office, although for many years he has been devoted, with his time and his means, to the support of honesty and efficiency in public affairs. In him the cause of education has ever had a warm friend, and to it he has given a long term of service. From 1850 until 1870 he was trustee of the Common Schools of the Ninth ward of New York. On the organization of the Fire Department, under its present system, he was made one of the Commissioners, a position which he held for three months and then resigned. In 1873,

when the Legislature was called upon to name a Regent of the University in place of OSWALD OTTENDORFER, Mr. BOOTH received the unanimous nomination of the Republicans and was duly elected. In the election which resulted in placing him in his present position of Senator he ran against VINCENT C. KING and received a majority of 2,437.

Mr. BOOTH is Chairman of the Committees on Literature and Public Health, and is also a member of the Committees on Cities, and Commerce and Navigation.

GEORGE B. BRADLEY

GEORGE B. BRADLEY, who now represents the Steuben, Chemung and Schuyler district, was a candidate for the position which he now holds two years ago. At that time he made a gallant, but an unsuccessful fight. Although the Republican majority in that district had been counted by the thousands, he was beaten by a scratch, his opponent being chosen by a majority of seven.

Senator BRADLEY was born in the town of Greene, county of Chenango, on the fifth day of February, 1825, and consequently he is now in the full maturity of his powers. His father, ORLO F. BRADLEY, now dead, came from Litchfield county, Connecticut. The Senator spent the early years of his life on a farm which his father had purchased in Chenango county, after leaving New England. Receiving a good common school and academic education, he turned his attention to law, and after pursuing the usual preparatory studies, was admitted to practice. For the last twenty-five years he has occupied a prominent position at the bar of this State, being recognized in the profession as one of the ablest lawyers of the southern tier.

The Senator was married in July, 1850, to Miss LATTIMER, of Steuben county.

He and Judge RUMSEY of the Supreme Court were the representatives of their respective parties from the southern counties of their judicial district in the late Constitutional Commission. The Judge resigned when appointed to fill a vacancy, but Mr. BRADLEY served, and no man in the Commission made a more favorable impression upon all those familiar with the work of that body.

Mr. BRADLEY was placed in nomination by the Democrats and Liberal Republicans. It was a significant fact that his Republican opponent of two years ago, Hon. GABRIEL T. HARROWER, was one of his most ardent supporters throughout the canvass. He was triumphantly elected, carrying every county in the district, by a majority of 2,859 over EATON N. FRISBIE.

Mr. BRADLEY is an easy, effective speaker, and takes a prominent part in all the debates of moment. He signalized his entrance into the Senate by his minority report from the Committee on Privileges and Elections, on the ABBOTT-MADDEN contested election case. He favored the retention of ABBOTT as sitting-member until all the evidence in the case had been offered and reported on by the committee. His speech in support of his report was the most able and eloquent presentation of Mr. ABBOTT'S claims that was addressed to the Senate.

Mr. BRADLEY is a member of the Committees on Judiciary, State Prisons, and Privileges and Elections.

JOHN W. COE.

The Second Senatorial district of the State of New York consists of the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, seventh, eleventh, thirteenth, fifteenth, nineteenth and twentieth wards of the city of Brooklyn. The Senator is JOHN W. COE.

JOHN W. COE was born in the city of New York, on the 26th of May, 1839. He received a good common school education, and then turned his attention to mercantile pursuits. At the present time he is engaged in business as a manufacturer. He was married in 1862.

The Senator has always taken a deep interest in politics, and has held some prominent public positions. He was for many years an active Republican, and, in 1872, embraced the Cincinnati movement, so called. He was a delegate to the convention that laid down the Liberal platform and nominated HORACE GREELEY for the Presidency. In his own county of Kings, he has long enjoyed a high degree of political prosperity. In 1870 he was elected a member of the Board of Supervisors, and proved such a popular representative, that, in 1872, the Liberal Republicans returned him to the Board from a strong Republican district. His second term as Supervisor was signalized by a most stubborn contest for the Chairmanship of the Board. After a campaign, lasting five months, Mr. COE was elected to that office.

In the fall of 1873, the Liberal Republicans placed him in nomination for Senator. The action of the convention was indorsed by the Democracy, and the result was his election over Hon. JOHN C. PERRY, who was chosen to the last Senate by a majority of 1,968. Mr. COE's majority was 1,414.

Mr. COE's political position in the Senate is a peculiarly

"independent" one. He was first nominated, as we have said, by a distinctively Liberal Republican convention, and afterward was indorsed by the Democrats. He made no pledges whatever to the latter, and, in refusing to do so, told them that they had simply to choose between him and his Republican opponent. As a consequence, party ties sit very loosely upon him, and he is left free to follow the promptings of an unbiased judgment in considering all questions brought before the Senate. He came to the Legislature with the reputation of having materially assisted in unearthing the labyrinth of frauds in the jail of Kings county, through which the public were swindled out of thousands of dollars annually. He signalized his entrance into the Senate by casting his vote in favor of awarding the contested seat of the tenth district to Mr. MADDEN. His speech, in explanation of his action, proved him to be a clear and cogent speaker.

Senator COE is a member of the Committees on Cities and Public Health.

DAN H. COLE.

The Twenty-ninth Senatorial district of the State of New York consists of the counties of Genesee, Niagara and Orleans. The Senator is DAN H. COLE, of Albion, Orleans county.

Senator COLE was born at Auburn, Cayuga county, in the year 1814. He is descended from New England stock, both of his parents being natives of Sharon, Conn., where his father followed the profession of medicine for many years. After receiving a good substantial education in the common school and academy, he applied himself to the study of law. He was for some time a student in the office of his brother, Hon. A. HYDE COLE, who, it is interesting to note, occupied a seat in the Senate in 1848-9. After being admitted to the bar, the Senator entered upon the practice of his profession

at Albion. Since 1850, other duties occupying his attention, he has not been actively engaged at the law. Of late years he has been prominently engaged in several important business enterprises, among others with the Curtis Agricultural Works, of which he is President.

The Senator has had considerable experience of a varied nature in public life. In 1840 he was appointed by Gov. Seward Surrogate of his county, and held the office four years. In the fall of 1846, he was elected to the responsible and honorable position of County Clerk, and remained as such two terms, six years. In 1855, on the death of Judge H. R. CURTIS, he was appointed County Judge and Surrogate, and in the fall of the same year was nominated and elected a member of Assembly from Orleans county. As a member of the lower House of 1856, he participated in the long and exciting contest for Speaker, which ended, on the forty-ninth ballot, in the election of ORVILLE ROBINSON. In all these positions, Mr. COLE served the people to their entire satisfaction, and established an enviable reputation for capacity and integrity.

The Senator is now serving his second term as a member of the Senate. He was first elected to that body in 1863, and, during 1864-65, held the same important Chairmanship which he now holds, of Canals. He was also Chairman of the Canal Committee when in the Assembly, and thus brings to bear in the discharge of his duties during the present session a perfect familiarity with the duties of his responsible position. He has also figured prominently, this session, as Chairman of the Committee of Privileges and Elections. There being no less than three contested election cases in the present Senate, that committee has its hands full. Senator COLE presented the majority report in the ABBOTT-MADDEN case, which excited so much interest all over the State, and which the Senate, after an exciting debate, adopted.

Senator COLE was married, in 1836, to FRANCES M. ELLIOTT.

HENRY C. CONNELLY.

The Fourteenth Senatorial district consists of the counties of Greene and Ulster. The Senator is HENRY C. CONNELLY.

Senator CONNELLY was born at Shandaken, Ulster county, on the 25th of September, 1832, consequently he is now in the full maturity of his powers. Shortly after his birth the family removed to Esopus, in the same county, which has remained the Senator's home ever since. His father and his father's father were both born in the town of Olive, Ulster county. His grandfather was a physician and Baptist minister, and his father a farmer. The latter is still living at the age of 66.

The Senator's education was received, for the most part, at the common schools of his county. A portion of one year he attended the Charlottesville Seminary at Schoharie. At the early age of 15 he began to learn the great lesson of self-dependence, and we find him teaching the young ideas to shoot. He followed teaching for three months, and then went to clerking it at Rondout. Here he remained four years, and then removed to Eddyville, Cattaraugus county, where he spent some time in mercantile pursuits. In 1856 he embarked in business on his own account, and to-day finds him in the same place in which he commenced, a successful and respected merchant. The firm of CONNELLY & SHAFER is widely known as manufacturers of Rosendale cement.

In politics, the Senator, although brought up under Free Soil Democrat influences, has always been a Republican. For four successive years his friends and neighbors showed their regard for him as a man of capacity and integrity by electing him to represent his town in the Board of Supervisors of Ulster county. He cares very little for public life,

and never asked for an office in his life. Whenever he has consented to represent the people the office has sought him, not he the office.

Thoroughly known throughout the Fourteenth district, and everywhere, as a man fitted, by his sound business capacity and inflexible integrity, to make a useful legislator, it was not strange that his party friends placed him in nomination for Senator. The district had been counted unfailingly Democratic, and yet, although Greene county went against Mr. CONNELLY 543, his own county of Ulster gave him the handsome majority of 809, thus securing his election by 266 over JACOB H. MEECH. In 1871 a Democratic Senator was elected by 828 majority.

Senator CONNELLY is Chairman of two Committees, Erection and Division of Towns and Counties and Charitable and Religious Societies; he is also a member of Roads and Bridges and Printing.

The Senator has been twice married. He was married to his present wife, a daughter of LEVI MANNY, of West Path, Ulster county, in 1858. He has been connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church since 1852.

JESSE C. DAYTON.

JESSE C. DAYTON, of Watervliet, represents the Thirteenth Senatorial district, which consists of the county of Albany.

The Senator's ancestors were English, and as far back as 1600, certain of them emigrated from England and settled near what is now East Hampton, Long Island, where his father was born. His grandfather removed to Rensselaerville in 1800.

The subject of this sketch was born at Westerlo, Albany county, in the year 1825. His life has been spent in Westerlo,

Knowersville, Watervliet and New York city. After receiving a good substantial education, he turned his attention to mercantile pursuits, and in 1844, being then in his nineteenth year, went to New York as a clerk. Developing good business qualities, it was not long before he passed from the position of clerk to the head of a flourishing house of his own. He is still actively engaged in business in the metropolis, but has his home away from its rush and roar in tranquil Watervliet, where he has an extensive farm.

The Senator takes a lively interest in politics, and has always been identified with the Democratic party. Last spring his friends and neighbors brought him forward as a candidate for Supervisor. He accepted the nomination and was elected by a majority of five hundred, in a town which had been previously carried by the Republicans. In commenting upon his nomination for Senator, the Albany *Argus* bore witness to the faithfulness and vigilance with which he had represented his constituents in the Board of Supervisors. It added, "taking his election for granted, he will be a credit to Albany upon the floor of the Senate, and a valuable servant in committees and all routine legislation. And his character is as exemplary as his qualifications for the position of Senator are superior."

The Troy *Press*, a newspaper published outside of the Fourteenth district, noticed the nomination of Mr. DAYTON for Senator, as follows: "The Democracy of Albany county have nominated JESSE C. DAYTON, of Watervliet, for Senator. Mr. DAYTON is not an office-seeker, nor is he a man that office can corrupt. He last spring accepted the nomination for Supervisor in a Radical district, and illustrated his popularity by carrying his election with nearly five hundred majority. In the Board he has been one of the most vigilant members, watching the interests of the people with constant care. Being a man of wealth, he has personal interests that are opposed to extravagant legislation, and that is one of the strongest guards that can be put upon a legislator. As there

is no doubt of Mr. DAYTON's election, we congratulate our sister county upon the wise action of its convention."

Mr. DAYTON was nominated for the honorable position which he now holds by acclamation, and elicited a hearty support. He was elected over CHARLES P. EASTON, Republican, by a majority of 2,152. In 1871, CHARLES H. ADAMS, Republican, was elected by a majority of 656, leading the State ticket by 1,911.

Mr. DAYTON was assigned, by the President of the Senate, to the following committees: Printing, Public Buildings, and Indian Affairs. He is a man of quiet manner and modest bearing. Although not a talking member, as a general rule, he is always ready to take the floor when the success of any measures which he has in charge seems to require it.

WELLS S. DICKINSON.

The seventeenth Senatorial district, comprising the counties of Franklin and St. Lawrence, is represented by WELLS S. DICKINSON, of Franklin. He comes from a section of the Empire State which has always been in the van of liberal and progressive ideas, a section proud of its PRESTON KING, its SILAS WRIGHT, and which has produced many sons who have been potent in shaping the policy of State and nation.

The subject of this sketch was born at Bangor, Franklin county, where he still resides, in the year 1827, and is of genuine American descent. After receiving the rudiments of his education at a common school, he entered the Franklin academy in his native county, where he remained two years. He then, in the year 1846, laid aside his books, and engaged in mercantile pursuits with his father, whom he joined as partner in 1850. In 1851 he took to himself a wife, marrying Miss THUSA FISH. In 1853 he bought out his father's

interest in the business and associated Mr. A. C. PATTERSON with himself. The copartnership thus formed continued until the year 1865, when he also admitted Mr. CHARLES WHITNEY into the firm, and carried on business under the name of PATTERSON, WHITNEY & Co. In 1857, Mr. WHITNEY went out of the concern and Mr. DICKINSON's brother took his place. During all this time, however, Mr. DICKINSON had devoted himself chiefly to his private and individual business, the manufacture of potato starch and speculation in starch, hops, etc. In addition to the pursuits thus indicated, Mr. DICKINSON ran for some years extensive grist and saw mills, of which he was the owner, and had business interests at Red Wing, Minnesota, as member of the firm of SMITH, MEIGS & Co.

Thus much for the Senator's business history, and now a glance at his public and political life. In politics he was formerly a Whig, but he now is and has been for years an active and ardent Republican. His personal popularity at home is shown in the fact that for three successive years, 1857-8-9, he was elected Supervisor of his native town. In 1859 the Legislature of New York appointed him one of the Commissioners to whom was intrusted the settlement of the claim and damages arising on the contract between the State and J. D. KINGSLAND relative to convict labor.

Senator DICKINSON began his legislative career some years ago. In 1860 he represented the county of Franklin in the Assembly in a manner at once creditable to himself and satisfactory to his constituents. He was a member of one of the most important committees in the House, that on Railroads. In 1864 he was a delegate to the memorable Republican National Convention which met at Baltimore and renominated ABRAHAM LINCOLN for the Presidency.

Senator DICKINSON has already had one term's experience in the Senate. In the fall of 1871 he was first nominated for the office, going into the convention as the unanimous choice of Franklin county, and proving entirely acceptable

to the St. Lawrence delegates. Two years previous, when his name had been presented by his county, the convention paid him the marked compliment of passing a resolution recognizing him as "an upright and patriotic citizen, a reliable and active Republican, and one whom the people of the seventeenth district hold in high respect." He entered actively into the campaign and was elected by the handsome majority of 6,925. He was chairman of the Committee on Villages and Indian affairs, and a member of the Committees on Claims, Roads and Bridges and State Prisons.

Mr. DICKINSON made so good a record in 1872 and 1873 that the electors of the seventeenth district decided that he well deserved to be returned. The *New York Times*, in an editorial article on the senatorial nominations of last fall, commended Senator DICKINSON as a gentleman who had had much experience in public affairs and who enjoyed the confidence and respect of the Republicans among whom he lived. He was re-elected by the comfortable majority of 4,626 over his Democratic competitor.

As a politician Mr. DICKINSON has an honorable reputation and his course since he has been Senator has been such as to entitle him to thorough confidence and respect reposed in him by his constituents. He is chairman of two important Committees in the present Senate, Claims and Villages, and is a member of Affairs of Cities and State Prisons.

ALBERT G. DOW.

The Thirty-second Senatorial district, consisting of the counties of Cattaraugus and Chautauqua, is represented by ALBERT G. Dow, of Randolph, Cattaraugus county.

The salient facts of his history are as follows: ALBERT G. Dow was born in Plainfield, Cheshire county, New Hampshire, on the 16th of August, 1808. His father, SOLOMON Dow, who was also a native of "the Granite State," followed farming for a living. The Senator received his education in the "common" and "select" schools, so called, of Vermont and western New York, and after leaving his books, turned his attention to mercantile pursuits. During many years he was engaged in the hardware business, and he was rewarded with a fair degree of success; of late he has followed the business of banking. It may be added, just here, that he has been twice married, and has been a member of the Congregational church for over thirty years.

The Senator's political history repeats that of a great many of his contemporaries. Until the breaking out of the late war he was a Democrat, and since that time has acted with the Republican party. He has had considerable experience in public life, and evidently is held in high regard by those who know him best. For ten years he represented the town of Randolph in the Board of Supervisors of Cattaraugus county, a fact that speaks emphatically of his capacity for affairs and his reputation for integrity. In the fall of 1862 he was elected to the Assembly from the Second district of Cattaraugus county as a Union Democrat, by a majority of 971 over LEMUEL S. JENKS. He made such a satisfactory record that he was returned the next year. When we have added that the Senator filled the office of Justice of the Peace for twelve years, and was, from 1857 to 1863, a Com-

missioner of Excise, it will be seen that his experience of public service has been long and varied.

The Senator was elected to his present position by a majority of 2,458 over DAVID N. BROWN, who ran on the Democratic ticket. He is Chairman of the Committee on Grievances; also of that on Indian Affairs; and is a member of the committees on Public Health and Manufactures.

Senator Dow is a careful and sound legislator, always keenly alive to the material and moral advancement of his own locality in particular, and of the State in general. Making no pretensions to oratory, he nevertheless has the faculty of presenting his views clearly and forcibly. During the present session his speech in favor of the appropriation to academics was an able and well-considered effort. The Senator held that it would be in accordance with the dictates of sound policy for the State to distribute \$125,000 among the academics of the State, and supported his position with quite an array of facts and figures. Whether or no he is right or wrong is an open question, but he made one thing certain beyond a cavil — his interest in the educational interests of the State.

JOHN FOX.

The seat of the Fourth Senatorial district, which remained vacant during the whole of last term by reason of the non-appearance of the Senator elect, WILLIAM M. TWEED, is occupied this session by JOHN FOX. The district includes the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, thirteenth and fourteenth wards of New York.

Senator JOHN FOX was born at Frederickton, New Brunswick. His father, PATRICK FOX, and his mother, CATHARINE AHERN, were both natives of Ireland. The Senator received

a common school education, attending school number twenty-nine, New York city. After throwing aside his books he commenced, while yet a mere boy, the great battle of life, and the development of those qualities of self-reliance and energy of character which have since marked his career.

Until he was twenty-three years of age he was a block and pump maker. After that, thinking that he knew how to keep a hotel, he tried that line of business for two years. Since abandoning hotel keeping he has been engaged in the real estate and brokerage business.

JOHN FOX is a name that has long been familiar in the ears of those at all acquainted with politics in the city of New York. Few men of his years have been as long in public life, in various positions of honor and trust, as the Senator. Always an uncompromising Democrat, he has been frequently called by his political friends to represent them. In 1861 he was elected Alderman, defeating one of the most popular men in New York, the late widely lamented HENRY SMITH, Police Commissioner, by a majority of 800. In 1864 he was chosen to the Board of Supervisors of New York county by the overwhelming majority of 17,000. In 1866 he defeated HORACE GREELEY for Congress, and in 1868 was re-elected over General LEWIS by a majority of over 16,000. In Congress he served on the committees on Post-offices, Post Roads and Invalid Pensions. The Senator's position in the State councils of his party is shown in the fact that in 1873 he was made Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Democratic State Central Committee. He has long been a regular attendant at the State and National Conventions of the Democracy. He was a delegate to the National Conventions of 1868 and 1872, and has been present in similar capacity at every State Convention held during the past ten years, saving only the year 1871, when the TWEED ring defeated him and put in his place a man of their own.

The Senator was married in 1861, in New York city, to Miss ELLEN BYRNE. He attends the Catholic church.

In the canvass which resulted in placing him in the seat which he now occupies he was opposed by MORGAN JONES, and defeated him by a majority of 6,063. He is a member of the Committee on Cities, Election and Division of Towns and Counties, and Rules.

JOHN GANSON.

The Thirty-first Senatorial district consists of the county of Erie. The Senator is JOHN GANSON.

JOHN GANSON was born in LeRoy, Genesee county, N. Y., in 1818. After pursuing the usual preliminary studies, he entered Harvard College, from which institution he graduated in 1839. He began the study of the law directly after his graduation, and as a lawyer has been known ever since. He occupies a prominent place in the ranks of his profession, standing at the head of the bar of Erie county.

The first official position ever held by Mr. GANSON was that of Senator, in 1862-63. The author of "Life Sketches" for those years, sketches him as follows:

"Senator GANSON is one of the most prepossessing men in the Senate, both in his personal appearance and the general tone of his character. He is somewhat above the medium height, straight, active, and well formed, and has a brisk energetic gait, which is strongly significant of his firm and decisive character. His eye, which is deep blue, is intensely brilliant, and as clear as the morning star. When he looks at a man, it seems as though he were going, literally, to read him through and through, and no amount of oily duplicity, no brazen effrontery, no studied concealment could avail any thing before his keen, penetrating glance. It is an eye to make all rogues tremble, look round about them to be sure that they have not been unwittingly engaged in some mis-

chief. He has always persistently refused to allow his name to be presented to the people as a candidate, and his nomination for Senator was conferred upon him without his knowledge. Two committees were selected by the convention to apprise him of his nomination, but, although he stated distinctly to both of them that he would not, under any circumstances, accept the distinction, the last appointed informed the convention that he had consented to accept, and his nomination was accordingly ratified and his election triumphantly secured. Finding himself thus unavoidably placed before the people, he made a short speech, defining his position on the war, and sustaining the administration in a successful suppression of the rebellion; but beyond this he did nothing whatever to secure his election, although his opponent, who was one of the most popular men in the district, labored zealously to secure his own triumph."

So much for the Senator as he appeared to one in pursuit of his life ten years ago. He was elected as a representative from New York to the Thirty-eighth Congress, and while occupying a seat in that honorable body, served on the Committee on Elections. He was a delegate to the famous Chicago Convention of 1864, that nominated McCLELLAN for the Presidency.

The circumstances attending Mr. GANSON'S nomination for the position which he now holds, resembled those attending his former nomination in one particular, he seemed loth to run and is said to have expressed anything but satisfaction when informed of his nomination. The office evidently sought him and not he the office, and it follows as a consequence that he is confessedly the right man in the right place. He has made an enviable record in the Senate, as the unrelenting foe of special legislation, and has been zealous, as member of the Judiciary Committee, in assisting in framing adverse reports on a large amount of crude and improvident legislation. It has been well said of him, with more force than elegance, that "he invariably scents, instinctively, 'the

nigger,' in a measure of questionable propriety." He cherishes a contempt for all manner of combinations, log-rolling and class-legislation. A Democrat of the conservative school, he is not embarrassed in a free and conscientious discharge of his duties by party drill or influence. He is justly classed among the foremost orators of the Senate, and always speaks clearly and forcibly.

Senator GANSON is a member of the Committees on Judiciary, Claims, and Commerce and Navigation.

JACOB A. GROSS.

The Sixth Senatorial district of the State of New York consists of the tenth, eleventh and seventeenth wards of the city of New York. The Senator is JACOB A. GROSS.

Senator GROSS is one of the youngest members of the present Senate, having been born in 1842. He is a New Yorker, and the son of MARTIN GROSS, deceased. After receiving his preliminary education in the private schools of the metropolis, he devoted some time to the study of law at the well-known Columbia College Law School. He graduated in 1864 with the degree of LL. B., and the next year was made LL. M., by the same college. He has devoted himself ever since to law as his profession, and has been rewarded with a fair degree of success.

In politics the Senator has always been a Democrat, but never a member of Tammany Hall until its re-organization a few years ago. He is now a prominent member of the Tammany General Committee.

The Senator was elected to the position which he now occupies by a majority of 3,312 votes over GEORGE HENCKEN, Jr., the nominee of the Republican party. In 1871 there was a Democratic plurality in the district of 2,425.

Senator GROSS is an easy and fluent debater, and takes an active part in the discussions arising on the important measures presented for the consideration of the Senate. As a legislator, he may be denominated cautious, deliberate and conscientious. He speaks often, but seldom at any length, and always with clearness and earnestness. He is a member of the Committee on Banks, the Committee on Charitable and Religious Societies, and the Committee on Villages.

Senator GROSS is unmarried, and attends the Catholic church.

JOHN C. JACOBS.

The Senator from the third district of Kings county, having served in the lower House during the years 1867, '68, '69, '70, '71, '72 and '73, was abundantly qualified, by legislative experience and knowledge, to respond to the call which came to him last fall from his constituents, "Friend, come up higher." A leader in the Assembly for seven years, it was to be expected, on the retirement of Hon. HENRY C. MURPHY from the seat which he had filled so ably for twelve successive years, that he would be given the succession. Mr. JACOBS was elected to the Senate by a majority of 3,984 over JOHN F. HENRY.

The salient points in his history may be stated as follows: He was born in Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, on the 10th of December, 1838, and is therefore now in the thirty-fifth year of his age. His paternal ancestors were of the old New England Revolutionary stock, and several of them participated with honor in the memorable struggle for independence. Mr. JACOBS' mother was born in Pennsylvania, and was of German origin, one of her progenitors having held a high position under Frederick the Great of Prussia.

When Mr. JACOBS was quite young his parents removed to

Brooklyn, where he was placed in a select school as soon as he had reached a sufficient age. The family removed to Philadelphia a few years later, and his school studies may be said to have closed when he attained the age of twelve. He was, nevertheless, able to turn every opportunity of obtaining knowledge to account, and the loss occasioned by the check thus given to his educational progress, is not as apparent as it might be in a duller man. Returning to Brooklyn, after a year's stay in Philadelphia, he entered a lawyer's office as a messenger boy. The drudgery there required of him was, however, very repugnant to his somewhat high-strung nature, and he left it after a short experience, and sought and obtained a position as copy-holder in the large printing establishment of JOHN A. GRAY & Co., New York. A large number of journals being issued from the establishment, Mr. JACOBS naturally came in contact with many newspaper men, and he soon developed a taste for journalistic life. At the age of eighteen he became a reporter for the New York *Express*. He showed great aptitude and ability in the arduous duties belonging to the life he had now entered, and was gradually promoted on the *Express* staff, until he was given charge of the political news columns. In 1859 he became correspondent of the same paper at Albany, remaining with it until 1865, when, in the same capacity, he represented the New York *World*. He also won distinction as a war correspondent, volunteering in 1862 to accompany McCLELLAN's army to the Peninsula. Becoming attached to the 1st New York Volunteers, then in KEARNEY's division, he had a chance to see and participate in some of the hardest fighting of the war. His account of the evacuation of Harrison's Landing and the march to Yorktown, which he sent to the *Express*, was extensively copied by the press of the country.

Mr. JACOBS began his political life when a mere boy. In 1856, when but eighteen years of age, he was active in his opposition to FREMONT's election. In 1860 he was well known

in Brooklyn as a leader among the young men who combined against the LINCOLN ticket. In 1863 he received the regular Democratic nomination for Assembly, against JOHN C. PERRY, Republican member of the last Senate. THEOPHILUS C. CALLICOTT ran as an Independent Democratic candidate, however, and the split thereby occasioned defeated him. In 1865 he also ran, being again defeated by WILLIAM W. GOODRICH, after an unusually spirited contest. Mr. JACOBS' friends insisted that he should run again in 1866, and the Democratic Convention nominated him by acclamation. A strong effort was made by the Republicans to defeat him, but the plucky young journalist was successful this time by 900 majority. From that time until his elevation to the Senate, he was regularly returned every fall to the Assembly, his majority being usually larger than the State ticket received.

In 1869 he served on the Committee on Commerce and Navigation, and on several special committees. In 1870 he was chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, and a member of the Committees on Insurance, and Grievances. In 1871 he was a member of the Committees on Grievances, Judiciary, and Ways and Means, and Chairman of the latter. In 1872 he was a member of the Committee of Ways and Means, and Petitions of Aliens; and in the last House he was a member of Ways and Means, Insurance, and Rules. During the session of 1872 Mr. JACOBS was honored by being chosen as one of the managers to conduct the trials of Judges BARNARD and McCUNN. In the years when the Democrats held the majority in the House, Mr. JACOBS displayed great effectiveness as a leader and party manager, winning deserved repute for his readiness and ability in debate, his tireless activity and his dauntless courage in battling for political principles. Two or three times he has been a candidate for the Speakership, but in the year when the party majority was with him, the Tammany interest of New York city, with which he was not always in entire accord, succeeded in

defeating him. He was the candidate of the Democratic minority for the position in the session of 1872, and also in the last one, receiving the entire vote of his party. Inasmuch as he possesses peculiar qualifications for the post of presiding officer, and is thoroughly versed in parliamentary law, the compliment thus twice given him was in every way deserved.

Mr. JACOBS is a great favorite among all his friends. Though he is an ardent and active partisan, there is yet a courteousness of manner and a frankness of language in all his political endeavors, which invariably extorts admiration and respect from his most decided opponents. He is a man of large heart and warm sympathies to his friends, and generous to his foes, very few of the latter being such in other than a political sense. In legislative matters he devotes the largest share of his attention to local affairs; but his ringing voice is often heard, also, in defense of party policy, and in denunciation of Republican measures and schemes. He is very fluent in debate, occasionally rising to heights of oratorical eloquence; and he never fails to command the attention of the Senate when once warmed up with his subject. He unquestionably stands among the foremost members of a minority which includes a number of very able men.

The Senator is a member of the important Committees on Finance, and Affairs of Cities.

WILLIAM JOHNSON.

Senator JOHNSON probably does more than any other man in the Senate to promote a general good feeling all around the circle. Jolly himself, he is the cause of jollity in others. He has a keen sense of the ludicrous, and frequently chooses to place an adversary *hors du combat* by a racy repartee, rather than force his surrender by the slow processes of logical reasoning. He rarely allows a subject to be disposed of without putting his mark upon it, and

“ — is so full of pleasing anecdote,
So rich, so gay, so poignant in his wit,
Time vanishes before him as he speaks.”

Urbane and pleasant in his address, and carrying around with him “the atmosphere of gay, good cheer,” he is a very popular gentleman. A natural talker, fluent and ready on a great variety of subjects, he is one of the marked men of the Senate.

Senator JOHNSON represents the Twenty-sixth district, including within its territory the counties of Ontario, Seneca and Yates. He is a native of the good old Bay State, and is now not far from 50 years of age. He is of unmixed English descent, the son of DAVID and OLIVE STODARD JOHNSON. His father died in 1825, at Herkimer, Herkimer county, this State. The subject of our sketch came to New York while he was yet an infant, with his parents, who took up their residence in Herkimer county. He received a common school education, and subsequently was engaged some five years in mercantile pursuits. From 1849 until 1856 he followed the business of jobbing, as a contractor on the canals, and afterward was engaged in the manufacture of woolen goods at Seneca Falls, where he now resides. Of late

years, he has become prominently known as a railroad contractor.

The story of his life, as he himself tells it in familiar conversation, shows that his career has been indeed a chequered one. Full of ups and downs, of fortunes made and fortunes lost, it has been marked throughout by an unflagging energy and a disposition to make the best of the allotments of Fate, be the same fair or foul. Having tried his hand at a great variety of pursuits he has accumulated a stock of experience of a rich and varied nature.

In 1862, having the year previous represented the county of Seneca in the Assembly, he felt moved to do his share in putting down the rebellion, arguing, doubtless, that it was useless to concern oneself about making laws for a country until it had first been conclusively settled in the minds of all men that there was, and was to be, a country capable of enforcing obedience to its laws and maintaining its own existence. He raised the 148th regiment New York State volunteers and commanded it until near the close of the year 1863, when he resigned and returned to civil life.

In the Assembly of 1861 he was assigned a place on two important committees, Canals and Commerce and Navigation, and made an intelligent and useful legislator. He was adjudged to have possessed a large degree of representative ability, and to have faithfully and efficiently discharged his official duties.

Mr. JOHNSON has been elected and re-elected to the Senate from a district usually carried by his political opponents, and his success under the circumstances was a signal proof of great popularity. Notwithstanding the other side had a record of 332 majority for 1869 to take heart with, he succeeded in 1871 in wiping those figures out and gaining the Senatorship by a majority of 964. In the last Senate he was on the Standing Committees on Canals, Manufactures and Grievances, and was Chairman of the Special Committee appointed to investigate the charges against Tweed.

The record made by the Senator during the last two years commending itself to his constituents, he was unanimously and by acclamation renominated to represent the Twenty-sixth district. After an exciting and closely contested canvass he was re-elected over his Republican opponent, NESTOR WOODWORTH, by a majority of 174. He is a member of the important Committees on Canals and Manufactures, also of the Militia Committee.

The Senator was married in the summer of 1855, to ANGELINE CHAMBERLAIN, daughter of the late Hon. JACOB P. CHAMBERLAIN.

CHARLES KELLOGG.

The Twenty-first Senatorial district of the State of New York consists of the counties of Madison and Oswego. The Senator is CHARLES KELLOGG.

Senator KELLOGG, one of the youngest members of the present body, was born in Minden, Montgomery county, on the 4th of December, 1839. His father, DANIEL F. KELLOGG, was a member of the Assembly in 1864. After receiving a thorough education at the Yates Polytechnic Institute at Chittenango, the subject of this sketch applied himself to the study of law. He attended a full course of lectures at the Albany Law School and graduated from that institution in 1863. He has ever since been actively engaged in the practice of his profession. At the present time he is a member of the law firm of LANSING & KELLOGG, at Chittenango, Madison county.

Mr. KELLOGG has always taken a deep interest in politics. Believing in the principles of the Republican party he has devoted himself as opportunity offered to the advancement of its interests, and is now recognized as one of the leaders of the organization in Madison county. Though still a

young man, being but a little past thirty, he is well and favorably known throughout the Twenty-first district.

Mr. KELLOGG was elected to the high position which he now holds by a majority of 1,443 over MATHEW J. SCHOCRAFT, his Democratic opponent. In arranging his Standing Committees, the President of the Senate named the Senator for several important places. He is chairman of Roads and Bridges and a member of two other of the most important committees of the Legislature, Judiciary and Canals. He is also a member of the Committee on Salt.

Mr. KELLOGG is quiet and unassuming in his manner, and extremely courteous and affable to all with whom he is brought in contact. As a legislator he is capable and efficient; seldom absent from his seat in the Senate chamber, he keeps a sharp watch on all that is going on. Although not a frequent speech-maker, he is by no means lacking in ability, to express himself with clearness and force.

JOHN A. KING.

THE First Senatorial district consists of the counties of Suffolk, Queens and Richmond. The Senator is JOHN A. KING.

JOHN A. KING was born in Jamaica, Long Island, July 14, 1817. He is the son of JOHN A. KING, Governor of New York in 1857 and 1858, and grandson of RUFUS KING, who filled so large and honorable a place in the early annals of this State and of the Union.

After attending Union Hall Academy at Jamaica for ten years, from 1822 to 1832, he entered the Sophomore class at Harvard College, from which institution he graduated in 1835. For a short time following his graduation he engaged in mercantile pursuits, and then applied himself to the study of law, and in due course of time was admitted to the bar.

For the past twenty years he has been an agriculturist, seeming to take great pleasure in the pursuit so dear to his ancestors.

In politics, Mr. KING was a Whig until the formation of the Republican party. Since then he has been an unswerving and ardent Republican. He has been a delegate to a number of the State conventions of his party, and assisted at the nomination of GRANT and WILSON, at Philadelphia, in 1872. He was elected Republican Presidential elector for the First Congressional district of the State in the fall of the same year.

Mr. KING was termed by the parties opposed to him in his canvass for Senator, as "the ancestral candidate," a title of which he had no reason to be ashamed. A brief sketch of his distinguished father and grandfather will not be considered out of place in this connection.

RUFUS KING was born in Massachusetts, and filled consecutively the office of representative in the State Legislature and delegate to the Constitutional Convention. He was, also, a member of the convention which framed the present Federal Constitution in 1787, and enacted an influential and conspicuous part in its important and difficult deliberations. In the same year, he removed to New York and became the first United States Senator elected from that State. In the Senate he was a recognized leader of the Federalists, or anti-Democratic party. He aided in the expulsion of ALBERT GALLATIN from that body, and subsequently, when he and ALEXANDER HAMILTON attempted to address a public meeting in the city of New York, called to uphold the celebrated "Jay Treaty" with Great Britain, the citizens refused to hear them lest they might defeat the treaty. They, however, accomplished their purpose by publishing a series of articles in the newspapers of the day. Mr. KING was again elected to the Senate in 1795, and in 1796 resigned to accept the mission to England from President WASHINGTON. In 1813, and again in 1820, he was returned to the Senate. In

1816 he was nominated for Governor by his party. In 1816 he ran unsuccessfully against JAMES MONROE for President. In 1821 he sat in the New York State Constitutional Convention. He died in 1828 at the ripe old age of seventy-three.

His friends claim for RUFUS KING, that he was the originator of the celebrated Congressional ordinance of 1787, by which negro slavery was abolished in the North-west Territories. When in Congress in 1820, he also opposed the Missouri proviso or "Compromise," and was prominent in opposition to the admission of that State into the Union. THOMAS H. BENTON in his "Thirty Years' View" does full justice to the career of RUFUS KING.

JOHN A. KING, father of the Senator, was mustered into the service of the United States in 1812, and held the rank of lieutenant in the militia during the war. He six times represented the county of Queens in the Assembly during the years 1812, 1820, 1821, 1832, 1838 and 1840, and was a member of the State Senate in 1823. In 1825 he was Secretary of Legation at London under his father. He was a member of the Thirty-first Congress, where he highly distinguished himself in debate. He opposed the Compromise measures of 1850 and the Fugitive Slave Law with much ability and zeal. In 1856 he was a delegate to the Republican Presidential Convention at Philadelphia, and his name was suggested for the Vice-Presidential nomination on the ticket with Col. FREMONT. It is said he had only to signify his willingness to accept to have secured the nomination which was given to Mr. DAYTON, of New Jersey. He was elected Governor of the State of New York in 1856, defeating Hon. A. J. PARKER, the Democratic nominee, by a majority of 65,784

For the following brief sketch of the Senator, we are indebted to the Long Island *Farmer*. Writing of his nomination, it said :

"Senator JOHN A. KING, eldest son of the Governor, was born in Jamaica, at the old place on Beaver Pond, lately occupied by the Hon. WILLIAM J. COGSWELL. The house was destroyed by fire and the present one erected by the late TUNIS VAN BRUNT. Mr. KING graduated at Harvard College, Cambridge, Massachusetts, in the summer of 1835. He was married some few years after, and for a long time has resided at Great Neck, taking great pleasure in the pursuits so dear to his ancestors. From the retirement of his life as a gentleman farmer, he now comes forth for the first time, to occupy an important political position. His classical education, together with great familiarity with affairs of State, gained by seasons of residence in Washington, and by association with the most honorable of public men, makes him eminently fitted to fill with great success the place of State Senator. Inheriting not only the outward appearance of his noble father, but similar traits of character, we know that the First district will look with pride upon the career of its representative during the next two years, and at the end of that time, we doubt not that our party will unite in nominating JOHN A. KING as candidate for the National Congress, where his grandfather, father and uncle had been before him."

The high esteem in which the Senator is held by those who know him best, is shown in the extraordinary vote he received in his senatorial canvass. He had a majority of 1,707 in a district which had been known as a Democratic stronghold. It never had elected a Republican Senator before, and then only through a division in the Democracy with two Democratic candidates running.

THOMAS A. LEDWITH.

The Seventh Senatorial district consists of the 18th, 20th, and 21st wards of the city of New York, and its present representative is THOMAS A. LEDWITH. Mr. LEDWITH was born in the city from whence he now hails on the 14th of February, 1840. He was educated at St. Francis Xavier College, New York, and graduated therefrom in 1856. He at once applied himself to the study of the law, which he had chosen for his profession, and in 1861 he was admitted to practice. With him law and politics went hand in hand, and in 1862 he was sent to the Assembly from the Eleventh district of the metropolis, being elected by a majority of over 2,000. He enjoyed the distinction of being the youngest member of the lower house of 1863, and signalized his entrance into legislative life by his opposition to the Broadway railroad bill, which passed and was vetoed by Governor SEYMOUR. He was assigned a place on the important committee of the judiciary. The author of the "Biographical Sketches" published in 1863, speaking of Mr. LEDWITH, says: "He is said to be a young gentleman of excellent attainments, and promises to rise early in his profession. He possesses a pleasant exterior, never attempts any forensic display, has many friends in the legislative circle, and serves his constituents truly and faithfully, being in every way worthy of their confidence and esteem."

In the fall of 1863, Mr. LEDWITH, fresh from the Legislature, was again honored with a testimonial of the regard in which he was held by his political friends. The Democracy nominated and elected him to the important and honorable position of police justice. His administration on the bench gave such satisfaction that, at the expiration of his term of office, he was in 1869 re-elected, notwithstanding the stubborn

opposition of Tammany Hall, which was then at the zenith of its power.

In 1870 the Young Democracy of New York city made him their candidate for mayor, in opposition to A. OAKES HALL. He made a spirited canvass, but did not succeed in securing the election. Mr. LEDWITH was elected to the Senate by a majority of 680 over JAMES EVERARD, the Republican candidate, who also drew to his support the Apollo Hall branch of the Democracy.

Senator LEDWITH is a thorough Democrat, following strictly party lines on all leading questions coming before the Senate. He is a member of the following committees: Insurance, Public Expenditures, and Engrossed Bills.

JARVIS LORD.

Mr. LORD, the Senator from the twenty-eighth district, was born at Ballston, Saratoga county, February 10, 1816. He is in the prime of life, and as vigorous as he was at twenty-five; of good physical proportions, an excellent constitution, and a temperament adapted to severe endurance, both of body and mind; he has been favored with good health, and seldom tires by active labor.

Mr. LORD was the son of poor parents, and had no other educational advantages than those afforded by the common schools in the days of his boyhood. He availed himself of these, however, so far as to acquire a tolerable knowledge of those branches which were to be most essential to his future success in business life. He early adopted the avocation of farming, and though, during most of his subsequent life, he has had large interests in other pursuits, he has made the farm his home, and has taken a pride in the culture of the

soil. He has resided, for thirty years or more, at Pittsford, seven miles from Rochester, and has there one of the best cultivated and most productive farms in Monroe county. He takes delight in the cultivation of fruit and the raising of stock, devoting himself particularly to horses, of which he is a great admirer.

Mr. LORD has always been a Democrat of the JACKSON and WRIGHT school. Devoted to the Union, he warmly espoused the Federal cause at the beginning of the rebellion, and gave freely to promote the national interests, and, it is said, did more than any other man in his town to keep the calls for men filled, and to help the soldiers in the field and at home. He has enjoyed a personal popularity in his own town equaled by few men, and when nominated for office, his neighbors have supported him with enthusiasm. He was made the recipient of a testimonial in the spring of 1871, which spoke volumes as to his success in office, and his assured place in the confidence of those who had intrusted vital interests to his keeping. Serving two terms in the lower House, and one term in the upper one, he had developed signal legislative capacity, and an unfaltering devotion to the best interests of his constituents. On his return home in 1871, at the end of his first Senatorial term, his constituents, without distinction of party, gave expression to their appreciation of their gratitude for his services in their regard by affording for his acceptance a testimonial in the shape of an elaborate service of plate. The presentation ceremonies took place at the Senator's residence at Pittsford, and a special train was run from Rochester for the accommodation of the large number who desired to be present on the interesting occasion. The presentation speech was made by WILLIAM N. SAGE, and Senator LORD made an appropriate, eloquent and feeling response. Letters were read from prominent gentlemen regretting their inability to be present on the interesting occasion, and expressing their congratulations.

The formality of presentation over, the presents were inspected and admired. The testimonial consisted of the following articles: Silver server, coffee urn, two tea pots, sugar bowl, cream pitcher, slop bowl, card dish, fruit stand and soup tureen. The articles are all solid sterling silver, handsomely engraved and gold lined. The silver is marked:

“Hon. JARVIS LORD, from the citizens of the twenty-eighth Senatorial district of New York, as an acknowledgment of faithful services.”

All the articles named are marked with the monogram, “J. L.” in handsome old English letter. The cost of the testimonial was \$2,500.

And now a few details of that legislative career of which we have spoken, and a word as to the Senator's business history. He was elected to the Assembly in 1858, on the Democratic ticket; when the district went Republican by several hundreds. He was elected again in 1866, by a majority of fifteen over a strong opponent, when the district gave Governor FENTON 600 majority. At the opening of the Legislature, in 1867, his party presented him as the Democratic candidate for Speaker, and sustained him by an unbroken vote; but the Republican majority in the House accomplished the election of Mr. PITTS. He has once or more served as Supervisor.

Mr. LORD has been engaged for many years in building canals in this State, and he enjoys a wide reputation as a contractor. He is President of the Bank of Monroe, of Rochester, a sound and reliable institution, and as a business man is well and favorably known all over central and western New York.

Mr. LORD has been a member of the Senate since 1870, and in that year was made Chairman of the Finance Committee. Although a new man in that body, at that time, he took a leading position from the start, and gave evidence of an extensive knowledge of the wants and resources of the State. His report on the payment of a portion of the State

debt in coin, made during the first year of his term, was regarded as a paper of great clearness and force. The Senator was renominated in 1871, and again in 1873, under circumstances which must have been peculiarly gratifying to him, indicating, as they did, that his course as a legislator met with the hearty approval of his constituents. Before the renomination was made in 1871, a letter was read to the convention from him, declining another senatorial term, and giving his reasons therefor. The convention not seeing eye to eye with Mr. LORD on that point, and having nominated him by acclamation, sent a committee to inform the nominee of their action, whereof the Senator appeared in the convention and said if his letter of declination would not suffice, he would yield to the wishes of his constituents and take the field. He was elected by a majority of 1,838, an increase of 1,138 on his majority of 1869. He was elected to the present Senate by a still larger majority, 3,384, an increase of 1,546 over the majority of 1871, and an increase of 2,684 over the figures for 1869.

Mr. LORD does not claim to be an orator. His attention has never been bestowed on the embellishments of rhetoric and elocution. Whenever he has an opinion to utter he delivers it point blank and with force, if not with grace. His shrewdness, plain sense and knowledge of the world are his leading characteristics, and they serve him well in the accomplishment of his ends as a Senator.

SAMUEL S. LOWERY.

SAMUEL S. LOWERY, of Utica, who represents the Nineteenth Senatorial District, consisting of the county of Oneida was born in county Down, Ireland, on the 5th day of February, 1831. It would, therefore, be a Hibernicism to say that he is a Scotchman, but his ancestry, not less than his characteristics, stamp him as one who is more a Gael than a Celt.

Senator LOWERY's parents emigrated to this country when SAMUEL was about fourteen years old, and settled in Oneida, county. He received a good common school education in Ireland, and, by reason of a strong taste for books, he has acquired, during his later years in this country, an extensive fund of knowledge.

The Senator is, by occupation, a manufacturer of woolen goods. In this business he has been quite successful, and conducts, at the present time, an extensive establishment, in which he employs a large number of hands. He settled in Whitestown, Oneida county, on his arrival in this country, and there remained until the year 1848. From thence, he went to Manchester, New Hampshire, where he was connected with a woolen mill until 1855, when he left and came to Utica, and engaged in the dry goods business. Success crowned his efforts, and, in 1861, he abandoned dry goods to become a wool dealer, and, two years later, started the mill which he has since run.

In politics Senator LOWERY, although a strict believer in the principles of the Republican organization, is never bitterly partisan. Until his election to the Assembly in 1870, he neither held nor sought office. He was chosen to that body by a majority of 448, over a worthy and popular com-

petitor, in a district where the Republican majority, in the previous year, was less than 50. Serving upon the Committees on Public Education, State Charitable Institutions, and Roads and Bridges, he proved faithful to the interest of his constituents, and exhibited a comprehensive knowledge of the duties of a legislator. As a member of the Committee on Education, he was especially distinguished for his sturdy and unflinching opposition to the policy of sectarian appropriations.

Mr. LOWERY was elected to the last Senate by a majority of 1,591 over his opponent (who had been a member of the preceding Senate, and was elected by a majority of 52), in a canvass in which the Republican candidate for Secretary of State received a majority of 1,023, in the Nineteenth Senatorial District. Senator LOWERY was very properly placed at the head of the Committee on Manufactures; he was also Chairman of the State Prison Committee, and a member of several other important committees. He had the honor of renominating ROSCOE CONKLING for United States Senator, and his speech, in joint caucus of the Republican members of the Senate and Assembly, in presenting that gentleman, was an able and eloquent effort.

His name having been mentioned in connection with the mayoralty of Utica last year, the Senator informed his friends that, while representing the Nineteenth Senatorial District, he felt in obligation bound to decline any other office, the holding of which might interfere with his Senatorial duties.

The Senator was not ungrateful for the honor sought to be conferred upon him by his fellow-townsmen, but he wisely chose not to accept an office which might divide his attention, caring first to redeem, to the satisfaction of the most strict constructionist, the obligations assumed with the office of Senator.

Mr. LOWERY was renominated for the position which he now holds without so much as even the mention of a com-

petitor, or the suggestion of opposition in the convention that named him. He was elected by a majority of 2,829 over ENOCH B. ARMSTRONG, running 1,200 ahead of the State ticket majority in 1871, which was 1,591. Commenting upon his renomination, the *Albany Evening Journal* paid him this handsome tribute:

“Senator LOWERY is universally known, first of all, as a scrupulously honest and upright representative, the inflexible foe of all jobbery, and the sworn enemy of the lobby. With this most important of qualifications, he unites sound judgment, ample ability and large acquaintance with the wants and interests of the State. As an influential member of the Finance Committee, Mr. LOWERY has faithfully co-operated in every effort to protect the treasury and defeat all improper demands upon it. He has met all questions with a conscientious sense of public duty, and his whole influence and action as a legislator have been wholesome.”

EDWARD M. MADDEN.

There are some men who, remembering the implied injunction of Holy Writ contained in the exclamation, “I would thou wert either cold or hot,” do whatsoever their hands find to do with unqualified fervency. They recognize no such things in the world as half-truths; to them whatever is not radically right is radically wrong, and *vice versa*. Their trumpets never give forth an uncertain sound or one wanting in volume, and if all the Jericho walls at which their efforts are directed do not tumble, they — gazing upon some stubborn piece of masonry on which their trumpeting makes no impression — have the consolation that goes with the consciousness of always making a red-hot and never a luke-warm fight.

Senator MADDEN belongs to this school of men. He has decided convictions, and is very decided in expressing them.

Once his mind is made up, he is extremely hard to move from his position, and whoever questions the faith that is in him is sure to hear the reasons on which that faith rests couched in unequivocal language. His eye and nay are like a woman's :

“ When he wills, he wills, you may depend on't,
And if he wont, he wont, so there's an end on't.”

GEORGE W. BUNGAY, the poet, in a volume of “ Pen and Ink Portraits,” issued in 1857, has a readable sketch of the subject of this biography, from which we take the following:

“ Senator MADDEN represents the county of Orange, where he was born, has always lived, and where he will probably die, unless political events so shape themselves that his unquenchable love of liberty, and intense hatred of slavery, should induce him to leave his Lares and Penates, and migrate to Kansas.* Like many other men of mark, he is wholly the artificer of his own fortune. He had no advantages of early education. From the age of nine to fourteen he commenced fitting himself for the great battle of life as an operative in a cotton factory; thence he pursued his studies as an apprentice in a tin shop; graduated in a hardware store, and took his final degree, as a retail merchant, at Middletown, where he now has a very extensive saw factory. Nature has done much for him. Gifted with a fine constitution, his iron will, unbending energy, indomitable perseverance and unflagging industry have combined to make him a hard student and a well-read man. His mind is well stored with practical knowledge, and few men are so thoroughly posted in the political history of our State or country. There is no man in the Senate of greater pluck or nerve. Governed in all his actions by fixed principles, nothing ever turns him from his purpose, when his course is once marked out. The State never had a more watchful guardian over its interests. He is extremely sensitive and jealous about all

* He probably has given up the idea of going to Kansas.—[Ed.]

inroads upon the treasury — more so than if it were his own private purse. His active business habits make him invaluable on committees, and woe betide the unlucky wight who comes before him with a doubtful claim. He participates freely in all debates, dissecting the subtleties and sophistries of lawyers with the sharp scalpel of common sense. He is a nervous, rapid speaker, and no man in the Senate is more earnest, energetic, forcible or convincing. He goes in a straight geometrical line right to the point, without any flowers of rhetoric, but with a directness that there is no mistaking. He uses no pearls of poetry, or flights of fancy, but deals altogether in the purest and strongest Anglo-Saxon. He always votes in accordance with his convictions. No motives of policy, expediency or interest; no regard for individuals or localities; no personal friendships, can make him swerve one hair's breadth from his line of duty. He engages in no 'log rolling,' never aiding any project of doubtful propriety to secure assistance in measures of real merit."

Senator MADDEN was formerly a Democrat, and was elected to the Senate in 1856-7 as an anti-Nebraska man. He was Chairman of the Insurance Committee in that body, and a member of the Finance, Claims, and Commerce and Navigation Committees. He made a good record, proving himself to be a strong, popular, earnest man. He was elected to the last Senate by a majority of 2,085 over his opponent, GEORGE M. BEEBE, a member of the present Assembly.

In the election for Senator in the Tenth district, in November last, the board of canvassers gave the certificate to FRANK ABBOTT, thereby declaring him elected, and Mr. MADDEN, his opponent, defeated. Mr. MADDEN claimed that the inspectors wrongfully rejected two sets of returns from Sullivan county, whose admission would have made him the sitting member for the Tenth district. His petition, claiming the seat, was referred to the Committee on Privileges and Elections of the Senate, who presented a majority report, recommending that the seat be awarded to Mr. MADDEN. A

minority report, recommending that, pending a thorough investigation, Mr. ABBOTT retain his seat, was also presented. The Senate, after an exciting debate, adopted the majority report, whereupon Mr. MADDEN appeared, was sworn in, and took his seat.

Mr. MADDEN has great personal strength in the Tenth district, otherwise he could not so often overcome the frequently adverse majority in his own county. He is always careful of the interests of his constituents, and, as we have already indicated, frank and fearless in the expression of his own views on all questions which bear upon the interests of the whole State.

ARCHIBALD C. MCGOWAN.

ARCHIBALD C. MCGOWAN was born in Pownal, Bennington county, Vt., August 26, 1825. His grandfather, JAMES MCGOWAN, was born in Scotland in 1750, and emigrated to the Colonies before the Revolution. He served in the Continental army and participated in the battle of Bennington. Before the war he settled in Hoosick, Rensselaer Co., where CLARK MCGOWAN, the father of ARCHIBALD, was born. The parents of the Senator died while he was an infant, leaving him an orphan and the youngest of the family. He was taken in charge by his relatives and given a common school education. At the age of 17 years he obtained employment as a clerk and procured the means to attend the Jonesville Academy, in Saratoga county. After leaving school he returned to his employment as a clerk and followed it for a few years, and then engaged in business for himself as a merchant, also attending to and carrying on the business of farmer, boat builder, and dealer in lumber and coal. At the age of 25 he was married to Miss MARY

LOUISA ROGERS, daughter of H. H. ROGERS, of Saratoga county, and his partner in business for many years.

The Senator, in politics, was a Democrat until 1856, when he voted for MILLARD FILLMORE, but in 1858 united with the Republican party, to which party he has ever since adhered. He represented the town of Frankfort in the Board of Supervisors of Herkimer county, for several years, and in 1862 was elected a member of the Assembly from the county and served on the committee on canals. At the Assembly District Convention, 1863, he was tendered a renomination, which he declined, and the following resolutions were unanimously adopted by the Convention :

Resolved, That this Convention cordially endorses the official course of Hon. A. C. MCGOWAN, as the Representative of the 2d District of Herkimer county in the State Assembly at its last session ; that we are proud of the past ; that amid so general corruption in that Assembly, he stood pure and firm against all the seductive influences around him, and came back to us with an unimpeached integrity ; that we especially indorse the course he pursued on the Broadway Rail Road and Erie Canal Lock questions, and the vote he cast relative to those measures, and we view with reprehension the attempts that were made to damage his reputation as a member of that Assembly, in consequence of the correct views he expressed and the sound policy he adopted respecting the great Canal interests of our State.

In 1865 he was again sent to the Assembly from the same District and served on the Committees on Census and Apportionment, Engrossed Bills and was the Chairman of the Joint Library Committee. His official course in that session was such that when he returned home, his conduct was cordially indorsed by his constituents. He has several times represented his party in State Conventions.

At the County Convention held at Herkimer, in 1869, delegates favorable to his nomination for Senator in the 20th Senatorial District were unanimously chosen and the following resolutions passed :

Resolved, That appreciating political integrity and moral worth, and pointing with pride to the course of A. C. MCGOWAN during his service of two years in the Assembly of the State, we do hereby present him to the Delegates of the Republican Union Senatorial Convention to be held at Richfield Springs, October 8th, as a gentleman of ability and of integrity, unassailable either in his private or official life, and as a most fitting representative of the Republicans in this District in the next Senate.

Resolved, That, challenging the closest scrutiny of the entire career of the Hon. A. C. MCGOWAN, we do hereby name him as our choice for next Senator for this district, and for the purpose of furthering this end to the interest of the whole people, and with the purpose to attest our appreciation of his honest, tried, official life, we do hereby appoint our delegates to the convention above named, relying upon their fidelity to carry out the wishes hereby expressed.

At the Senatorial Convention held soon thereafter, the delegates from Herkimer county, in accordance with those resolutions, presented the name of the Hon. A. C. MCGOWAN, and the Otsego delegates presented the name of the Hon. A. B. ELLWOOD, and, each county having the same number of delegates, the balloting stood a tie between them for a great number of times. Otsego county claimed the candidate to be located in said county, according to the established usages of the party, and, by his request, Mr. MCGOWAN's delegates withdrew his name from the canvass, and Mr. ELLWOOD was unanimously nominated.

At the next Senatorial nominating convention held in 1871, Mr. MCGOWAN was again the unanimous choice of his own county for senator, and, after a few complimentary votes for Mr. ELLWOOD by Otsego delegates, his name was withdrawn, and Mr. MCGOWAN received a unanimous nomination.

The *Journal and Courier*, the leading Republican paper published at Little Falls, indorsed his nomination in the following editorial:

"Of Mr. MCGOWAN, it is hardly necessary to record our indorsement. He has long been known to the people of this county. He has been tried, and found not wanting, in those

sterling qualities which endear a representative to his constituents. Mr. MCGOWAN is emphatically a self-made man. Thrown upon his own resources at an early age, he has won his way to a proud position in the esteem of the people of this locality. For several years he was a member of the Board of Supervisors of the county, and for two terms he represented his district in the Assembly of the State, in each position performing his duties faithfully, without even the breath of suspicion upon his integrity, and with that respect of his associates which intelligence and uprightness always command."

The Richfield Springs *Mercury*, a leading and influential paper of Otsego county (neutral in politics), gave him the following handsome compliment:

"Mr. MCGOWAN is a gentleman of fine abilities. He is what may be called a worker in his party. He represented Herkimer county in the legislative halls, and returned to his constituents with a clean record. He is a gentleman who frowns upon stealing in high or low places, and we believe him to be incorruptible in private or public life. He is a man of sterling worth and will honor his district. We do not intend to take up the political gauntlet, but we have said this much for Mr. MCGOWAN, for we know whereof we speak, having had a personal acquaintance with him for the past seventeen years. We hope he will have a rousing majority."

JOHN F. SCOTT, a wealthy and popular man, who, by a wide circle of acquaintances, was well known in Otsego county, was the opposing candidate. He threw his whole strength into the contest, and made an active and stirring canvass against Mr. MCGOWAN, and carried his own county by a majority of 680. But Mr. MCGOWAN was so popular in his own county, and his public record so clear, that he received a majority of 1323, the highest given to any candidate on the ticket in that canvass in the county, and was elected. He was placed on five committees, Canals, Salt, Agriculture, Select Committee of Nine, General Orders and Congressional Apportionment. He was Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, and it was through him as such

Chairman that all the Agricultural Societies of the State presented their affairs to the Senate.

His official course during his entire Senatorial term was so satisfactory to his constituents, that, at the Senatorial Convention in 1873, to nominate a candidate, Otsego county yielded her claims, and Mr. MCGOWAN received the high compliment of a renomination for another Senatorial term. The opposing candidate this time was DAVID A. AVERY, of Cooperstown, a popular banker of that place. There was a full State ticket in the field which called out a full vote, and Mr. AVERY with his friends entered on the canvass with much zeal. But Mr. MCGOWAN had so well established his reputation as a wise and careful legislator, and kept his record so clear, that the majority in Otsego county against him was reduced to about 200, and he was triumphantly re-elected to the Senate. He ran ahead of his own ticket in both counties. His success demonstrates that honesty, even in politics, is the best policy.

ANDREW C. MIDDLETON.

ANDREW C. MIDDLETON represents the eighteenth Senatorial district, composed of the counties of Jefferson and Lewis. His father, SAMUEL MIDDLETON, was born in the town of Charleston, Montgomery county, in the year 1796. He moved to Rutland, Jefferson county, in the spring of 1807, and in the fall of the same year settled on the farm where he continued to reside until his death in November, 1873, a period of sixty-six years. In those days of restlessness, when the first of each recurring May means moving to so many Americans, the fact of a man's living in the same place for the space of sixty-six years is indeed noteworthy. SERAPH MIDDLETON, the mother of the Senator, was born in Rut-

land in 1802, and was married to SAMUEL MIDDLETON April 26, 1821. A family of six children was the fruit of the union, all of whom are living, with the exception of one daughter.

ANDREW, the second son, was born April 5, 1824. He was brought up on a farm, and has always made farming his main business. He received a common school and academic education, and after ceasing to be taught, continued in school as a teacher for a number of winters. In 1849 he became Town Superintendent of common schools, a position which he filled satisfactorily for two years. In the year 1858 he was elected Supervisor for the town of Rutland, and was continued as such during the two following years. Again, in 1868, he occupied the same position. During the war he was appointed Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue. For the years 1872 and 1873 he was President of the Jefferson County Farmers' Club. This record of service indicates that the Senator is held in high esteem by his neighbors and friends. Mr. MIDDLETON is prominently identified with the Grange organization in this State, and at a meeting of the Independent Grangers of New York, held in Albany on the 4th of March, he was honored by being elected President of the State Council.

Senator MIDDLETON cast his first vote in the fall of 1845 in favor of the Whig ticket, and a Whig he remained until the organization of the Republican party. In our later politics he has cast his vote for FREMONT, LINCOLN and GRANT.

The nomination which resulted in the election of Mr. MIDDLETON to the Senate was made October 20, 1873, by a convention of farmers in the interest of reform, and bent on furthering the cause of the industrial classes. The call for the Convention was signed by over one hundred practical farmers. The Democratic Senatorial Convention which met soon after resolved not to make any nomination but earnestly recommended the Democratic and Liberal

Republican electors of the District "to vote for the farmers' and industrial men's candidate." Mr. MIDDLETON was elected by a majority of 903 over NORRIS WINSLOW, who had been chosen to the previous Senate by a majority of 1,771.

Mr. MIDDLETON is very properly placed at the head of the Committee on Agriculture. He is also a member of the Committees on Public Expenditures and Grievances.

HUGH H. MOORE.

The eighth Senatorial district, composed of the twelfth, nineteenth and twenty-second wards of the city of New York, is represented by HUGH H. MOORE. Mr. MOORE has been prevented by ill health from taking his seat this session, except on the occasion of his being sworn in. His seat is now (March 1st) being contested by WALTER S. PINCKNEY, his Republican competitor in the late canvass. His other competitor was ROBERT McCafferty, Apollo Hall Democrat. He was elected by a plurality of 254.

Senator MOORE has long been recognized as a hard-working politician. At present he is a member of the Tammany Hall General Committee. In business circles he is well known as an extensive contractor.

ROSSELL A. PARMENTER.

The twelfth Senatorial district, consisting of the counties of Rensselaer and Washington, is represented by ROSWELL A. PARMENTER.

Mr. PARMENTER is the eldest son of the late Dr. AZEL F. PARMENTER, was born in Pittstown, Rensselaer county, is now about forty-five years of age, and in the full strength of useful manhood. He is emphatically a self-made man, and never received a dollar that was not earned by hard labor. In boyhood he worked upon a farm for wages, and in the winter seasons taught school to defray the expenses of his education; and few men have been more thoroughly educated in the natural sciences and in the classics than he. Coming to Troy about the year 1848, with scarcely an acquaintance in the city, he soon made his way, formed a copartnership with the late Judge McCONIHE, and rapidly built up a large and lucrative practice. He entered at once on the trial of his own causes, without falling into the common error of young lawyers, of employing assistant counsel, and on appeal to the General Term and Court of Appeals argued his causes in those courts with the first lawyers in the State as adversaries. By such means he acquired that experience and thorough use of every legal weapon that have since made him so distinguished as a successful lawyer and advocate.

In the celebrated case of the Corn Exchange Insurance Company against Babcock, argued by Mr. PARMENTER in the Court of Appeals, a few years ago, that court paid him the high compliment of adopting his points as the law governing the case, thus settling forever in this State the long agitated and vexed question as to the legal liability of a married woman as indorser for her husband. Mr. PARMEN-

TER also received a letter of thanks and congratulation from many of the leading lawyers of the State, for his efforts in procuring the satisfactory settlement of that highly important and most vexatious question. Aside from his legal ability and acquirements, Mr. PARMENTER is a man of extensive reading and information, of great diversity of talent, with a mind cultivated by the refinements of literature, and enlarged and matured by study and reflection. He has frequently been invited to address literary associations, but has never accepted the invitation except upon two or three occasions, the habits of his mind being too severely logical to make that kind of composition attractive to his tastes. Mr. PARMENTER has often been designated by the Democratic State Central Committee as one of the public speakers, and in that capacity has on many occasions addressed the people upon the political issues of the day, at their mass meetings in different parts of the State; and last fall, at the request of the Liberal Republican State Central Committee, he devoted two or three weeks to the same object. And when the South raised its parricidal hand against the life of the nation, Mr. PARMENTER did not hesitate as to his course, nor stand idly by. He subscribed largely to aid the raising of recruits for the Federal army, and to the Soldiers' Relief Fund. Nor did his assistance stop here; he traveled over the State, making war speeches at many of the large meetings held for the purpose of encouraging enlistments; and his lengthy and telling speech at the immense war meeting in Seminary Park, in Troy, during a dark period in our national affairs, is still fresh in the minds of those who heard it.

As a political speaker Mr. PARMENTER is earnest, forcible and entertaining. Full of ideas and anecdote, clear and logical in argument, quick to catch the humor of the crowd and turn it to advantage, fluent and apt at illustration, he never fails to hold his audience. Besides, as we have said, he is an unflagging worker. The amount of professional toil that he has performed within the last twenty years bears witness to

this fact. As no member of the Troy bar has a larger or more important practice, so none devotes more hours to the stern demands of his profession. Mr. PARMENTER is now City Attorney of that city. When appointed to that responsible office, in the spring of 1871, he found a vast number of important suits pending against the city, some of which had been upon the calendar for years, involving in the aggregate about \$50,000. With his usual zeal and energy he set about the herculean task of freeing the city from this enormous load of litigation, and succeeded so well that in two years he had disposed of forty cases, two of which had each occupied over thirty days in preparation, in taking evidence and in summing up. For these successful and arduous official duties he received the public acknowledgments of Mayor Kemp, a political opponent, and a unanimous vote of thanks from the common council.

Mr. PARMENTER was elected to the Senate after an exciting and closely contested canvass, beating his opponent, Hon. I. V. BAKER, Jr., who was chosen to the last Senate by a majority of 4,458, by 828. He is a member of the committees on Canals, Literature, and Engrossed Bills.

BENJAMIN RAY.

The eleventh Senatorial district, consisting of the counties of Columbia and Dutchess, is represented by BENJAMIN RAY, of Hudson, who is well known in the eastern section of the State as a sound and trustworthy member of the Democracy. His father, Captain SAMUEL RAY, was a native of Dutchess county, a member of the Society of Friends, and a prominent man of his time. BENJAMIN was born in the city of Hudson in 1819, and descended from Scotch-Irish stock. In early life he commenced boating on the river, and followed this until about sixteen years of age, when he

apprenticed himself to a blacksmith in New York city. It was here that he first realized the importance of gaining an education, and accordingly he devoted himself to its acquisition with all his youthful ardor, and laid the foundation for that general information on important topics, which has so well qualified him for the prominent positions he has since filled. During the winter months he attended select schools, paying for his tuition from his scanty earnings, and passed his evenings in hard study in his room, the small hours of morning frequently finding him poring over his books, or elucidating some difficult problem. His general reading was confined to works treating of the lives of public men, and the theories of government. Thus the future legislator passed the weary years of his apprenticeship, and soon after he reached his majority he entered the establishment of R. L. STEVENS, the celebrated boiler and boat builder. While employed here, Mr. RAY superintended the construction of the largest iron steamship that had been built at that time, and won considerable fame by his achievement.

In the fall of 1849, at the breaking out of the "gold fever," Mr. RAY went to California, where he remained for four years. San Francisco was then a place of lawlessness and disorder, and the lives and property of the citizens were at the mercy of the mob. Mr. RAY was appointed the first Chief of Police, and organized the first police force and the first fire department in the "City of the Pacific," and so thoroughly did he perform his work, that both departments are still conducted upon the admirable system he adopted. It was an arduous task to subdue the army of roughs from all quarters of the globe that then infested the new settlement, but Mr. RAY proved equal to the emergency, and soon succeeded in bringing order out of confusion and compelling a due obedience to the laws. While in the performance of these duties, he was seriously injured by the infuriated mob, and for some time his life was despaired of.

He was subsequently appointed to the office of Inspector

of Steam Vessels for the Territory of California, and so well did he perform his duties, that after it was admitted as a State, he was tendered the same position by the general government, under President TAYLOR's administration, although a prominent and active Democrat. Business calling him to the Atlantic States, he declined the place.

In 1853, Mr. RAY returned to New York city, where he held various offices of public trust, among others, that of official appraiser for the city and county of New York, having in charge the adjustment and appraisement of estates of deceased persons, many of them of vast amounts and involving great responsibilities; but in the settlement of these large and in some cases complicated interests, not a dollar was ever misapplied or lost, and no difficulty ever arose between the appraiser and the executors.

In 1855, Mr. RAY was elected to the State Assembly from the Second district of New York city, and served his term with conceded ability. His constituents would gladly have returned him for many successive years, but important business interests at that time prevented him from accepting the honors.

A few years ago he resumed his residence in Hudson, and in 1870 was elected to the Assembly from this district, and so faithfully did he serve his constituents that he was re-elected in 1871 and 1872.

Having proved capable and faithful in the performance of the public trusts already imposed upon him, an appreciative people selected him for still higher honors and more important trusts, and hence his election to the Senate. He ran against JOHN C. HOGEBROOM and was chosen by a majority of 1,945. In 1871, the Republican majority of A. W. PALMER, his predecessor in the Senate, was 8,572. Mr. RAY's voice is not often heard in debate, but he is capable of making a speech when he elects so to do. He is thoroughly informed on all the details of legislation.

WILLIAM H. ROBERTSON.

The ninth Senatorial district, consisting of the counties of Putnam, Rockland and Westchester, is represented by WILLIAM H. ROBERTSON, of Katonah, Westchester county, one of the most able and dignified members of the present Senate, and its President *pro tem*. He was born at Bedford, in the county in which he now resides, October 10, 1823. His father, HENRY ROBERTSON, who was born in 1791, at Bedford, is still living. After pursuing his preliminary studies at Union Academy, Bedford, he read law, and in 1847 was admitted to the bar.

The Senator has had a long and honorable career as a public man. The confidence so often reposed in him by the people has never been violated; the interests committed to his hands never neglected. Beginning as Town Superintendent of the Bedford Common Schools, he subsequently served for four years as Supervisor, and on two occasions was Chairman of the Board — the only Republican who ever held that position. Rising rapidly in his profession, he was early elected County Judge of Westchester, and served in that capacity for three terms, twelve years.

His experience as a legislator has been long and varied. He represented Westchester county in the Assembly, in 1849 and 1850; and the ninth Senatorial district in the Senate of 1854–55. Later he was a representative in the fortieth Congress. In politics Mr. ROBERTSON is a representative Republican, and has long been prominently identified with the organization of his choice. Until the year 1855 he was a Whig, and since that date has given his vote and influence to the party to which he now belongs. For three years he was a member of the Republican State Committee,

and in 1864 attended the Republican National Convention as a delegate. He has also on many occasions attended the Whig and Republican State Conventions as delegate.

The Senator did efficient service during the late war. He was Chairman of the Military Committee appointed by Governor MORGAN, in 1862, to raise and organize State troops in the eighth Senatorial district. Later on he filled the important position of Commissioner to superintend the draft in Westchester county, under an appointment of the Governor. For six years he was Brigade Inspector of the Seventh Brigade, New York State National Guard.

He was elected to the last Senate by a most flattering vote. Running in a strong Democratic district, his defeat would have been a matter of course, had he not been conspicuous for his great ability, and as popular as he was worthy. As it was, he received a handsome majority in every town of Westchester, and succeeded in carrying Rockland and Putnam counties as well — his total majority being 5,851 over WILLIAM CAULDWELL, who had been chosen to the preceding Senate by a majority of 2,274.

In the fall of 1872 the Senator's name was among the foremost of those presented at the Utica Republican Convention for the office of Governor. As soon, however, as it was found that General DIX would accept the nomination, it was withdrawn in the interests of harmony.

The Senator was elected to the present Senate by a majority of 2,364 — figures that indicate great personal popularity in a district giving a large Democratic majority on the State ticket. The New York *Commercial*, in commenting upon his election, justly observed: "There must be some thing most extraordinary in a man's character, who can break down a Democratic majority of two or three thousand in his district on every occasion he is made a candidate, and carry it in his favor by the same majority." Senator ROBERTSON was chosen President *pro tem.* of the Senate by a *unanimous* vote. Senator WOODIN, who held the position in the last

Senate, moved the nomination in caucus and the resolution of election, and it had the cordial approval of every Republican Senator. The concurrence of the Democratic Senators was a handsome personal tribute and a graceful testimony to the esteem in which Senator ROBERTSON is held. He has had long experience in parliamentary practice, and makes an admirable presiding officer.

Senator ROBERTSON has rendered the State signal service this year as Chairman of the Judiciary Committee. He has proved himself an unrelenting foe of hasty and improvident legislation, and has strangled many a measure which, but for his challenge, might have succeeded in getting upon the statute book.

JOHN H. SELKREG.

Mr. SELKREG has been a practical printer, and, consequently, has had all the varieties of experience and change appertaining to that occupation. He is editor and proprietor of the *Ithaca Journal*, a paper which has effectively aided in the achievement of many a hard-fought battle. He has published the *Journal* since 1841.

He was born in Staatsburgh, Dutchess county, in 1817. His parents died when he was a mere boy (the youngest of a family of five children), and left him to the care of the older members of the family. He never attended school after he was eleven years old, and what little education he had gained up to that time had been acquired in the district school at Staatsburgh. His disposition, at the age of thirteen, rather inclined to printing as an occupation; therefore, having left his brother-in-law, with whom he had been living, he began an apprenticeship in the printing office of the Poughkeepsie *Telegraph*, then published by Messrs. KILLEY & Low, and which was at that time the Democratic organ of Dutchess

county. He continued there until the year 1838. Having arrived at that point where he thought himself sufficiently proficient to commence life on his own responsibility, he became a resident of Brooklyn, and, there entered into a partnership with the firm of Messrs. ARNOLD, VAN ANDEN & Co., publishers of the *Brooklyn Eagle*. Not being entirely satisfied with his business relations, he returned to Poughkeepsie in 1839, and published the *Poughkeepsie Casket*, a literary paper.

Two years subsequently, he purchased an interest in the *Ithaca Journal*, and, in connection with Hon. A. WELLS, continued its publication for several years. He afterward became sole proprietor of the establishment.

The *Ithaca Journal* was once a Democratic organ of Tompkins county. In 1848, Mr. SELKREG refused to support Mr. CASS, and ran up Mr. VAN BUREN'S name. The HUNKERS established the *Flag of the Union* to break down the *Journal*; but, not succeeding in the attempt, the "*Flag*" was lowered, and the *Journal* still continued to be the exponent of the Democracy. From the year 1850 to 1856, Mr. SELKREG saw that a great change was being wrought in the Democratic party. The repeal of the Missouri compromise seemed to him an outrage upon political honor. Such was the drift of affairs, he refused to support BUCHANAN, and advocated the claims of FREMONT, thus undoubtedly carrying over the county to the "Path Finder," inasmuch as the Republican vote ran up, in a single year, from 1,460 to 4,030.

From 1857 to 1861, he discharged the duties of Commissioner of Loans. President LINCOLN made him Postmaster of Ithaca in 1861. He was re-appointed, in 1865, by ANDREW JOHNSON, who, in the most nonchalant manner, subjected him to the guillotine on the 25th of August, 1866, for refusing to adopt Mr. JOHNSON'S peculiar views. Mr. SELKREG survived the shock, and, under the warm pressure of his friends, accepted the nomination for Member of Assembly, being elected by a majority of 1,472. Having once got him

in the Assembly, his constituents, finding him to be the right man in the right place, kept him there for five successive years. He was a Member of the lower House in 1867, 1868, 1869, 1870 and 1871. During the session of 1869, he was Chairman of Ways and Means, and, during all the years mentioned, was a member of that leading committee.

Mr. SELKREG has held several offices of business interest. At one time, he was President of the Ithaca and Binghamton Telegraph Company, and, later, has been President of the Ithaca Calendar Clock Company.

Mr. SELKREG was elected to his present position by a majority of 1,442 over GEORGE W. SCHUYLER. He heads two of the most important committees of the Senate—Railroads and Public Printing. Thoroughly familiar with the varied interests and public policy of the State, Senator SELKREG is a most useful and influential legislator.

JAMES G. THOMPSON.

The twenty-third Senatorial district, which is composed of the counties of Chenango, Delaware and Schoharie, is represented by JAMES G. THOMPSON, of Norwich, Chenango county. Mr. THOMPSON was born at Sharon, Schoharie county, on the 15th of January, 1829. His father, Dr. THOMPSON, was born and resided at Duanesburgh, Schenectady county. His mother was a daughter of PETER B. GUERNSEY, of Norwich. Both his parents are now dead. In 1857 he married JULIA FRANCES FOOTE, daughter of Dr. LYMAN FOOTE, of Syracuse. After finishing his rudimentary studies, the subject of this sketch entered the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, at Troy, with the design of fitting himself for the profession of Civil Engineering. This design he abandoned, however, after his graduation, and

.

after spending some time in teaching he embarked in the book and stationery business, which he has since made his leading support.

Mr. THOMPSON's standing among those who have the best opportunity for forming a correct judgment is shown in the positions of trust and responsibility which he has been called upon to fill. For five terms, extending over a period of fifteen years, he was County Clerk of Chenango county. He has also served the county one term as County Treasurer, and two terms as Superintendent of Schools. At the present time he is Supervisor of his town.

The convention that nominated Mr. THOMPSON for Senator was one of the most "complex" organizations ever assembled in the district. Schoharie, Delaware and Chenango each had a candidate, and each felt inclined to fight the thing out if it took innumerable ballotings. Mr. THOMPSON was not originally a candidate for the position which was so hotly contested, and the state of his health forbade him taking a very active part in the canvass. The preliminary contest was long and spirited, but at length on the one hundred and forty-third ballot Mr. THOMPSON was nominated. Hon. JAMES H. GRAHAM, Hon. J. H. RAMSEY, Captain CHARLES C. KROMER, and other prominent gentlemen, had their warm friends and supporters, but it was finally thought best to unite on a gentleman who has been called "the most popular man in Chenango." At the desire of the Schoharie delegation, that Delaware should agree with Chenango in the choice of a candidate, Mr. THOMPSON was finally nominated and nominated unanimously. Commenting on the nomination, the Oneonta *Herald* said:

"We suppose there is not a man in Chenango county who can poll a larger vote than Mr. THOMPSON. Five times he has been elected Clerk of the County, always running ahead of the ticket. He has served as County Treasurer, Superintendent of Schools, and is the present Supervisor of Norwich. He is of Schoharie birth, and the Republicans of that county ought to congratulate themselves that they have a

candidate of such eminent fitness. As a Senator, Mr. THOMPSON will have few superiors ; for he is a gentleman of education, extensive information, and practical common sense. He will talk enough and not too much, and work with satisfactory results every time. It is an honor to the district to have so able and honest a Senator."

The figures of Mr. THOMPSON's election are eloquent with the lesson of the necessity of getting out *all* the voters on election day, and speak forcibly of the importance sometimes of a single vote. Mr. THOMPSON beat his competitor, Mr. YEOMANS, by one vote! Mr. YEOMANS is now engaged in contesting the seat before the Committee on Privileges and Elections of the Senate.

Mr. THOMPSON is in the prime of life, possesses unusual aptness for the intelligent discharge of public business, and devotes himself with zeal and earnestness to his Senatorial duties. He is Chairman of two Committees, Internal Affairs of Towns and Counties and Poor Laws, and is a member of the committees on Militia and Literature.

FRANKLIN W. TOBEY.

The sixteenth Senatorial district, consisting of the counties of Warren, Essex and Clinton, is represented by FRANKLIN W. TOBEY, of Port Henry, Essex county. Mr. TOBEY enjoys the distinction of being the youngest member of the Senate ; he is now in his thirtieth year. He received no educational advantages in his boyhood, except those offered by the common schools. His father, ISAAC TOBEY, was, and is still, a plain Essex county farmer, and young TOBEY was trained to hard labor on the paternal acres. But he made diligent use of opportunities within reach, and succeeded in acquiring knowledge to such a degree, that before he reached his majority he was permitted to study law in the

office of Judge AUGUSTUS C. HAND. He made good progress, and in 1868 he was admitted to the bar, and has since been engaged in the practice of the law in the firm of WALDO, TOBEY & BECKWITH, at Port Henry. Several years ago he married the daughter of Rev. C. RANSOM, a Presbyterian clergyman, now Chaplain of Clinton State Prison. Mr. TOBEY's political life does not extend very far into the past, but it has been remarkably successful. Always a Republican, he has taken an active part in local politics since his eighteenth year. In 1869 he was elected Supervisor, and on his being re-elected in 1870, was made Chairman of the Board. In the fall of 1871 he was elected to the Assembly by a majority of 1,406, and re-elected in 1872 by 1,981 majority.

His services during the session of 1872 are so well-known, that it seems almost needless to refer to them. On making his first appearance at Albany he was regarded as a beardless youth of no great account, but he soon showed his mettle. Speaker SMITH knew something about him, and assigned him the second place on the Insurance Committee, and also made him a member of the Judiciary Committee, which, as the event proved, were the two most important Committees of that Assembly. It fell to the lot of Mr. TOBEY to act as Chairman of the Sub-committee which conducted the long and arduous investigation into the official conduct of the then Superintendent of the Insurance Department. Weeks were occupied in the examination of witnesses, and the testimony taken constituted one of the most bulky documents of the session. Much of the examination was conducted by Mr. TOBEY in person, and it is but just to say that he efficiently discharged the difficult and delicate task devolving upon him. The result of that investigation is now a matter of history; but the unanimity with which the Republican majority of the Assembly promptly indorsed the conclusions of the Committee, was a marked compliment, not only to Mr. TOBEY, but to every member of the Committee signing

the report. As a member of the Judiciary Committee, it was Mr. TOBEY's privilege to play a prominent part in what was pre-eminently the distinguishing achievement of the Legislature of 1872, namely, the impeachment, trial and expulsion of the corrupt New York judges. The offenses of these men had long been a stench in the people's nostrils, and it was peculiarly the province of a "reform" Legislature to bring about a needed change for the better in the judiciary. If the Legislature of 1872 had accomplished no other act worthy of commendation, the fact that it did effect this reform should entitle it to the gratitude of the long-suffering people of the State. When the charges had been made against Judges BARNARD, CARDOZO and McCUNN, it devolved upon the Judiciary Committee to investigate them, and to prepare articles of impeachment in case they were well founded. The committee entered upon its work with alacrity, and prosecuted it with thoroughness. They proceeded to New York, where they took a great mass of evidence, and, except on one or two minor points, were unanimous in recommending the impeachment of the judges for mal and corrupt conduct. The impeachment articles were prepared and adopted by the Assembly, and the result of the protracted trial, which took place in the summer of 1872, is familiar to every one. In all these proceedings Mr. TOBEY bore a conspicuous and honorable part, and won a reputation which few realize who spend long years in public service. Of course, with such a record as the result of a single session, his constituents had no choice but to return him by a largely increased majority, and they did so. In the Assembly of last year he was Chairman of the Committees on Insurance and Rules, and was a member of the Judiciary Committee. When it became evident that Mr. AMES, who represented the Sixteenth district in the last Senate, would be compelled to decline a re-election, on account of ill-health, Mr. TOBEY's name became at once prominent as his successor. His nomination was received with words of hearty approval by the

press in different parts of the State. The New York *Times* said, "Mr. TOBEY has experience in legislation, and in his two terms of service in the Assembly has won an enviable reputation for unwavering integrity, great watchfulness, and shrewd activity. No man ever thought of offering Mr. TOBEY a bribe, no matter how speciously the bait was gilded." Mr. TOBEY occupies the important and responsible position of Chairman of the Insurance Committee, and is a member of the Judiciary, Railroads, and Privileges and Elections.

WEBSTER WAGNER.

WEBSTER WAGNER, to whom, in the present Senate, the interests of the fifteenth Senatorial district are committed, is descended from German parents, and was born at Palatine Bridge, Montgomery county, this State, where he still resides, in the year 1817. After receiving a common school education, he was apprenticed to his brother JAMES to learn the trade of wagon and carriage building. His apprenticeship ended, and a good knowledge of the business acquired, he continued to devote himself to wagon and carriage making for a number of years. In 1845 he received the appointment of station agent at Palatine Bridge for the Utica and Schenectady Railroad, a position which he occupied until the year 1860.

While acting as station agent, and watching the trains coming and going, he proposed to himself a problem, the successful solution of which has done so much for the comfort of the traveling public, and made the name of WEBSTER WAGNER well known all over the country. The Senator would, doubtless, shrink from being designated by that much abused term "philanthropist," and yet if love for one's fellow men is to be inferred from benefits conferred on them, it is

difficult to see why he should not in all justice be named a philanthropist in virtue of his Wagner Palace Cars.

With the appearance of the sleeping and drawing-room car as part of the regular railway train, the comfort and convenience of travel was increased a hundred fold. Looking back a few years to the order of things that then prevailed, we wonder how it was that we ever rested content with the old time unsightly and uncomfortable cars. In virtue of the improvements, of which Mr. WAGNER was one of the pioneers, the terror of railroad traveling has been removed, and now, seated in a drawing-room car, or reposing in a sleeping-car, one approximates very nearly to the comfort and ease of a well-appointed home.

Mr. WAGNER was one of the original inventors, and the first to put in operation the drawing-room and sleeping-cars, which have grown to be a necessity with those who travel by rail. His long experience at wagon and carriage building enabled him to proceed unerringly with his plans for an easy-riding car, while his taste and judgment suggested the proper interior arrangements. The result of his labors in this regard was first made manifest on the 1st of September, 1858, when he introduced the first sleeping-car on the Utica and Schenectady Railroad. This effort proved eminently successful, and encouraged him to still farther exertions in the same direction. Having provided the means of accommodation and comfort for those who journeyed by night, he set himself to work in the interest of day passengers. Consummate skill, joined to great energy and perseverance, compassed the desired object, and on the 20th day of August, 1867, he presented to an admiring and delighted public the first drawing-room car that was ever built in America.

These drawing-room or palace cars have introduced an entirely new element of pleasure into traveling in the United States, have indeed reduced it to a fine art. Taking one of these magnificent conveyances in New York on Monday, a pleasure-seeker can find himself in San Francisco in a week,

not the least fatigued by travel or otherwise, and scarcely less fresh than when he popped his head out at Spuyten Duyvil Creek.

The first sleeping-car that was ever built in America and used by Mr. WAGNER, cost but \$3,000, whereas those used now-a-days cost \$16,000 to \$20,000 each, the difference in the figures representing the progress made in railway comfort and accommodation since 1857. Mr. WAGNER has now forty-nine drawing-room cars in active use, each of which cost near upon \$14,000.

The WAGNER Sleeping Car Company are now running sixty sleeping cars, which cost three-quarters of a million dollars.

Senator WAGNER's legislative career commenced in 1871, when he was sent to the Assembly from Montgomery county. Running with the odds against him, he was elected by a handsome majority, his vote being much ahead of that given to the general Republican ticket. He served on the committee on Banks, and made a record as a legislator so satisfactory to his constituents, that in the Senatorial Convention of 1871, he was unanimously nominated to represent the Fifteenth district. Two years previous, the Fifteenth district had been lost to the Republicans by an unfortunate division among themselves, and the selection of Mr. WAGNER, who was not a politician, and represented neither faction, was considered a guarantee that the Democratic majority in 1869, of 2,003, was to be overcome. And overcome it was. Mr. WAGNER was elected over ISAAH FULLER, his Democratic opponent, by the rousing majority of 3,222.

So well satisfied were the people of his district with the manner in which he had looked after their interests and the interests of the State, that he was renominated by the Republicans, by acclamation. The sentiment was universal that his election was due equally to him and the district. Indeed, the Democracy, at their convention, called to nominate a Senator, resolved that it was inexpedient to nominate

a candidate against him, and accordingly he was elected, without opposition.

Mr. WAGNER makes a faithful and good working Senator. He is attentive to the wants and interests of his own constituents, and intelligent and straightforward in his course upon matters of general legislation. He is direct, out-spoken and unequivocal upon all subjects, and no one will venture to cast reproach upon the purity and integrity of his action. You know where to find him every time. Without making any ostentatious pretensions, he has been an efficient and successful representative. His sound sense and practical ability have given him large influence among his associates.

ABIJAH J. WELLMAN.

Colonel ABIJAH J. WELLMAN represents the thirtieth Senatorial district, consisting of the counties of Wyoming, Livingston and Allegany. He was born at Friendship, Allegany county, on the 6th of May, 1836. His father, JONAS WELLMAN, was born in Vermont, and was of English parentage. He resided in Friendship for fifteen years, and for a long period prior to his death, which occurred in 1844, was an eminently successful and highly respected physician. The subject of this sketch enjoyed, after receiving the usual rudimental instruction, an academic course, and afterward entered the Oberlin Ohio College. In 1855, he entered into mercantile business, and a few years after took up the banking business. In 1864, he started in at lumbering. At the present time, he has all these irons in the fire, and is successfully managing them. Col. WELLMAN has a war record of which he may well be proud. In September, 1861, he was appointed Captain of the Eighty-fifth New York. A few months subsequently, he was promoted to be Major, and, on

the 8th of February, 1862, was again promoted to be Lieutenant-Colonel. He took part in the memorable battle of Fair Oaks, and was severely wounded on the 31st of May, 1862. He also participated in the battles of Goldsboro, Kinston and Whitehall, and remained in command of his regiment as long as it was in service.

Col. WELLMAN has always taken a deep interest in politics, and has been an active Republican since the organization of the party. For seven successive years, commencing in 1866, he was Supervisor of Friendship. For three years in succession he was chosen Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Allegany county. In 1872, he attended as delegate to the Philadelphia Convention that nominated Grant and Wilson.

Colonel WELLMAN was married, in September, 1863, at Friendship, to KATE, daughter of ASHER W. MINER, of that place. Early in life he united with the Baptist church, and, for the past eight years, he has been Superintendent of a flourishing Sunday-school.

The nomination of Colonel WELLMAN for the Senate was received with hearty expressions of satisfaction. The *Rochester Democrat and Chronicle* pronounced it "one in every way fit to be made." It added:

"Those who served with Colonel WELLMAN in the army speak of him in the highest terms as an officer and as a man. He was idolized by the troops. Colonel WELLMAN will make a Senator of the right stamp, and he is sure to be elected by a large majority."

The *Warsaw New-Yorker* said:

"Col. WELLMAN, our next Senator, is a man of excellent ability, of culture and refinement; served in the war with distinction, winning in an unusual degree the confidence of his generals and the love of his soldiers; is thoroughly trusted and believed in by all who know him, irrespective of party relations, and, by his high character and proved ability, is as well fitted to serve his district acceptably and well in the Senate as any new man in his county."

Colonel **WELLMAN** was elected by a majority of 3,297 over **EDWARD FARNUM**. He serves in the Senate on four important committees. He is very properly Chairman on Militia; he is also Chairman of State Prisons, and a member on Banks and Internal Affairs of Towns and Counties.

DANIEL P. WOOD.

DANIEL WOOD, the father of the subject of this sketch, came, in 1800, to Pompey, Onondaga county, from the Berkshire Hills. **DANIEL P. WOOD** is of New England, Massachusetts stock. And this implies more than many men, whose minds are biased by religious, sectional or political antagonisms, are willing to admit.

Massachusetts is, in some important respects, the inferior of this our native State. She has many faults of history and character. She has given birth to not a few unworthy sons and daughters. But, after all, in spite of what may be truthfully said about the Puritan sternness and Calvinistic bigotry, the persecution of Baptists and Quakers, the Cotton Mathers and Salem witches of the past, or the lax notions and heresies of the present, spite of all the business and political sins fairly or unfairly laid at her door, Massachusetts is a commonwealth eminent among her sisters for the nobler qualities. Considering her population, and the extent of her territory, her history cannot easily be surpassed for variety of excellence. Her children get from her a moral and intellectual training, a personal independence and love of liberty, and a political education which subordinates the State to the nation, the interests of the individual to the interest of the masses, which holds the home prosperity as bound up in, and inseparable from, the prosperity of neigh-

bors and sisters. Such sons of hers who go wrong are unjust to their mother and share nothing of her spirit.

Hon. DANIEL P. WOOD inherited, and has exhibited through life, the New England traits—readiness to labor and to learn, strength of will, forecast and sympathy with those movements which have for their end the well-being of the country—for their means to that end the advancing condition of all classes and races. His father was a lawyer and farmer, farming being his main occupation. Mr. WOOD worked diligently on the farm till he was twenty years old, acquiring a vigor of constitution which has since enabled him to endure the severest mental labor. After a preparatory course at Pompey Hill Academy, he entered Hamilton College. There he not only disciplined his mind by a mastering of the class studies, but expanded it by a wide range of reading. He studied law at Pompey, with VICTORY BIRDSEYE, and in 1846 commenced the practice of law at Syracuse. His industry and skill were not long in securing him great success. He was Corporation Attorney for three years, and his general business was so large, and attended to with such fidelity, that in 1853 his health broke down, and in the year 1854, he consented to represent his district in the Assembly, in the hope of benefit from lighter labors and a change of occupation. But the legislation of those years was very important, and Mr. WOOD was too earnest and active to give the needed rest to his worn-out frame. In 1853, he was Chairman of the Committee on Salt, and was on the Committee on Claims and the Code. On this last Committee was ARPHAXAD LOOMIS, while DAVID DUDLEY FIELD, another codifier, was often present at its sessions. The Committee sat many hours each day, entertaining the most important discussions, demanding for their proper handling severe thought and wide knowledge, Mr. WOOD brought to them his legal acumen and conscientious industry.

In addition, the canal policy came up for review and

determination. The Legislature of this year submitted the question of debt for the completion of the enlargement to the people, and in the long, exciting and able debates, Mr. WOOD was prominent and influential. He was one of the Managers, on the part of the assembly, of the impeachment of Canal Commissioner JOHN C. MATHER. To have been assigned such important posts by a House politically opposed to him, and during his first year as a legislator, was no light tribute to his reputation and capacity.

In 1854, as Chairman of the Committee on Colleges, Academies, etc., he matured and carried through the act creating the Department of Public Instruction. He was, this year, a member of the Committee of Ways and Means. He attended moderately to his profession during the three years immediately following; but, in 1857, a hemorrhage of the throat or lungs brought him to the borders of the grave. Most men would have given way, but the will of Mr. WOOD triumphed over disease, and as soon as he became convalescent, he started for South Carolina, returning thence on horseback.

In 1864, '65, '66, he was elected to the Assembly, as Representative from the Second district of Onondaga county. In 1865 and 1866 he was Chairman of the Committee on Canals, a position requiring almost ceaseless labor. He understood the canals, and defended their interests with honor to himself and usefulness to the State. In 1865 he was Chairman of the Committee to receive the remains of President LINCOLN, at the city of New York, and conduct them through the State. He was also on the Ways and Means, a committee of which, in the following year, he was Chairman.

Mr. WOOD was a Whig; then a Republican. During the war he labored without ceasing. The first regiment which went from Syracuse was raised in one week. In the same period, mainly through the exertions of Mr. WOOD, nearly \$20,000 was contributed on behalf of the soldiers and their families. His patriotism knew no fear or faltering; he kept

up his patience and his hope, speaking words of good cheer all the more when hours were darkest.

Mr. WOOD made such a magnificent record during his preceding term in the Senate that his renomination was a matter of course. He was renominated by acclamation and elected by a majority of 12,761, as against 3,991 received in 1871. The Democracy made no nomination against him, and the only organized opposition of any kind was represented by CHARLES D. B. MILLS, supported by the distinctively temperance vote.

Mr. WOOD holds in this Senate, as he did in the last, the leading and important position of Chairman of the Finance Committee, which has required him to act upon the vast fiscal interests, claims and necessities of the State, and has given him a great weight in determining its public policy. He has used all the power of this place in enforcing retrenchment, resisting unjust and unworthy claims, fighting extravagance and prodigality of expenditure, and relieving the burdens of the people. All who have any close knowledge of public affairs, know that to his firmness and courage and persistency the State is indebted for saving hundreds of thousands during the last session alone.

In his more general duties as a member of the Senate, Mr. WOOD has shown himself equally watchful and straightforward. He has stontly opposed all corrupt and questionable measures, and has uniformly been on the side of honest and economical legislation.

WILLIAM B. WOODIN.

WILLIAM B. WOODIN, of Auburn, represents the twenty-fifth Senatorial district, consisting of the counties of Cayuga and Wayne. He was born at Genoa, in the county of Cayuga, on the 25th of September, 1824. After receiving a thorough academic education, and graduating at the Cortland Academy, he applied himself to the study of the law with so much success that, once admitted to practice, it was not long before he rose to a prominent place among his brethren at the bar.

In 1859, his high character and conspicuous legal abilities secured his election to the office of Surrogate of Cayuga county. He brought to the discharge of the delicate and responsible duties incident to settling up estates, so much patience, industry and intelligence, that his re-election as Surrogate followed almost as a matter of course. A second re-election resulted at the proper time, and when Mr. WOODIN was elevated to the Senate, in 1869, there was a general and urgent request made of him to continue to discharge the duties of Surrogate. He may well be proud of the indorsement which he has thus received from home.

The Senator's first experience as a law-maker for the Empire State dates back to 1855. In that year he represented the second district of Cayuga county in the Assembly to the satisfaction of those who sent him there. He is now serving his third term in the Senate, having been a member of that body in 1870, 1871, 1872, 1873. During his first term he took high rank as a legislator, especially distinguishing himself from the very start as a debater. On the second day of the session of 1871, he made an able argument on the right or power of one Legislature to rescind the action of a previous Legislature in relation to amendments to the Constitution of the United States, an argument which, although delivered

after a very slight preparation, commanded great attention, and was pronounced by those who heard it as an exhaustive treatment of the subject under discussion.

Having, in his two years' service in the former Senate, taken rank among the foremost as an able, judicious and honest legislator, possessing both business and forensic capacity, he was, in the fall of 1871, renominated as Senator by acclamation. In the last Senate, Mr. WOODIN played a very prominent part. The session of 1872 was presided over by Lieutenant-Governor BEACH, and, that gentleman being opposed politically to the majority, was, very naturally, desirous of being relieved from the responsibility of naming the standing committees. Accordingly, the task of committee-making fell to Senator WOODIN, who had been chosen by his associates President *pro tem.* of the Senate. Probably no more thankless or delicate task can well be conceived of than that of forming standing committees. ARTEMUS WARD thought he could achieve a military success by raising a regiment to be composed entirely of major-generals. The plan is more felicitous than feasible, but if something similar to it could be contrived for legislative bodies, in virtue of which every honorable gentleman should have a chairmanship, Mr. President and Mr. Speaker would have considerable less worry than under the present limitations. We believe Senator WOODIN gave general satisfaction with his make-up of the Senate committees for 1872—the chief if not the only point of criticism that developed itself being that he gave himself no appointments.

Lieutenant-Governor ROBINSON, in arranging the Senate committees for 1873, designated Senator WOODIN as Chairman on the Committee of Cities, a position which was an appropriate recognition of his standing among his associates and his signal legislative capacity, but which is exceedingly responsible and onerous. It was impossible to satisfy all the conflicting interests and views that came up in connection with the New York charter and other leading measures, but

the vigor and capacity displayed by Senator WOODIN are nowhere disputed.

He was elected to the present Senate by a plurality of 388 over GEORGE W. CUYLER, Democrat, and DEWITT C. PARSHALL, Independent Republican. He retains his position as Chairman of the Committee on Cities, and has demonstrated anew his signal ability, industry as a legislator, accomplishments as a lawyer, and his ready comprehension of public questions.

HENRY A. GLIDDEN,

CLERK OF THE SENATE.

The duties of the Clerk of such a body as the Senate are not solely or chiefly *clerical*, in the ordinary acceptation of the word. Very much more is required of him than keeping the diary of each day's legislative doings in a large, legible hand; very much more than filing petitions, bills, reports and all that sort of thing in appropriate pigeon holes, and producing them when required; very much more than taking charge of that important but imaginary *table* attached to his desk, upon which so many documents of one kind and another are temporarily or permanently "laid;" very much more than proclaiming, with stentorian voice, all the wisdom which "The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact."

A man may give satisfaction as regards all the points indicated, and, nevertheless, fall short of the stature of a Clerk of the requisite capacity and accomplishments. A thoroughly capable Clerk — such an one, for instance, as he whose name stands at the head of this article — is, on occasion, and must always stand ready to be, the prompter, if not the power, behind the Chair. When new and inexperienced legislators for the first time are called upon to preside over

Senate or Committee of the Whole, where would they be — what would become of them but for the friendly and incessant whispers of the clerk? When a knotty point in parliamentary law is brought forward to the disagreement of the Senators, the Clerk who, on being consulted, fails to produce from his tongue's end a solution of the difficulty, is apt to be looked upon with a measure of disapprobation; as one not entirely fortified in his position. In addition to all this, the Clerk is expected to name, on the instant that a bill is introduced — no matter how queer and outlandish the bill — the very committee set apart for its reception; to keep in mind the title of every act "entitled an act" introduced from the commencement to the close of the session, including, as germane to the subject, the name of the committee to whom referred, and the date of subsequent report. Having added that, he must be as ready with answers to all sorts of questions as a metropolitan hotel clerk; that his legislative ability would avail him but little unless combined with great executive talents; that it behooves him to have a knowledge of men as well as of affairs; to be the possessor of the social virtue of unfailing good nature; and, as it were, to be a walking edition of the blue and red book. We refrain from further definition, and, merely repeating our preliminary observation, that the duties of the Clerk of the Senate are not solely or chiefly clerical, we pass on to give a brief sketch of the present efficient Clerk of the Senate, HENRY A. GLIDDEN.

HENRY A. GLIDDEN was born at Clarendon, in the county of Orleans, on the 21st of August, 1830. He received a good academical education, and graduated at the State Normal School, at Albany, in 1848. After leaving school, he applied himself to the study of the law, studying with Hon. SANFORD E. CHURCH and Hon. NOAH DAVIS, at Albion. He also availed himself of the benefit to be derived from attendance at the law school in Albany. He was admitted to the bar in 1852, but the press of business in

other directions has given him very little time for the practice of his profession.

Mr. GLIDDEN has always been an active politician. Starting as a Whig, he cast his lot with the Republican party as soon as it was organized, and has remained a Republican ever since. His official experience outside of the Senate is included in a three years term as Supervisor of the town of Ridgeway, Orleans county.

Mr. GLIDDEN has long been a familiar presence to those attending the sessions of the Legislature. For eight years he occupied the position of assistant clerk of the Senate, being retained under some administrations opposed to him politically. His retention for so many years of a position for which there is always such a crowd of applicants speaks well for his reputation for capacity and integrity. His election to the position which he now holds was a compliment of which he might well be proud. He was chosen by a unanimous vote, Democrats as well as Republicans recording themselves heartily in favor of a man whom they knew to be thoroughly equipped for the competent discharge of the many responsible duties devolving upon a Clerk.

Mr. GLIDDEN is prompt, intelligent, patient and courteous, and is as popular in his new position as he was always faithful in every public duty hitherto assigned him.



Lewis W. Husted

MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY.

JAMES W. HUSTED,

SPEAKER.

At the caucus which named the subject of the present article for the Speakership, the apt remark was made that "Gen. HUSTED is a born Speaker." The allusion was so peculiarly applicable, and so well described Mr. HUSTED's gifts in this regard, that it was caught up and embodied in numerous commendatory notices which then appeared in the press of the State concerning the new presiding officer. Certainly no other phrase of equal brevity could so well express the fact. Gen. HUSTED's qualifications for the Speakership — a position which admittedly requires qualifications of a high order — are implanted in his very nature. They are born within him rather than acquired. No amount of training can give to any man the quickness of perception, the prompt judgment or the coolness of demeanor, which pre-eminently distinguish the gentleman from Westchester, while the most thorough parliamentarian and statesman would undoubtedly fail in the Speaker's chair did he not possess precisely those qualities.

The canvass for the Speakership of the present Assembly was memorable in several respects. It is not frequently the case that a legislative body contains so many men of mark and ability as the one now assembled at the capitol. It was natural, therefore, that several of them should be spoken of as the prospective parliamentary head of the House; and it is a noticeable fact that all of those so spoken of would have honored the office had they been called upon to occupy it. From the first, however, Mr. HUSTED was universally recog-

nized, from his long and honorable service as a legislator, his perfect familiarity with parliamentary tactics and canons, and the extremely valuable mental and personal characteristics already spoken of, as the fittest man for the honor. Even his opponents—and there were many of them—conceded that, in a practical sense, at least, he stood almost without an equal in this connection. His competitor, Mr. PRINCE, a man of far different mold, of exalted character, and possessing equal if not superior accomplishments of another stamp, was a formidable rival, and had another than Gen. HUSTED been in the field he would undoubtedly have been chosen by acclamation. The contest between the two gentlemen, while carried on throughout in a friendly spirit, was stubbornly fought on both sides. But Mr. PRINCE suffered no disparagement or loss of self-respect in being beaten by such a man as Gen. HUSTED; and to the latter the result was not only honorable and gratifying, but a fitting acknowledgment of his five years' faithful service as a law-maker.

Gen. HUSTED's personal record, during the twenty years or more he has mingled in the politics of the State, has been a brilliant one. Born in Bedford, in this State, on the 31st of October, 1833, and descended from an ancestry chiefly remarkable for honesty and respectability, he enjoyed fair opportunities during his youth. He prepared for college at the Bedford Academy, in his native town, and at quite an early age entered Yale College, from which he graduated on reaching his majority in 1854. While in college he stood well with his class, and was complimented with university honors when he graduated. Subsequently he studied law with EDWARD WELLS, of Peekskill, and was admitted to the bar in 1857. As a lawyer he possesses fine abilities, and is regarded with confidence and respect. His political life has been somewhat varied, and not entirely devoid of vicissitudes. In the early years of his career he was identified with the American party and served two years as Secretary of the State Council of that short-lived organization. He was selected

Town Superintendent of Common Schools, in 1855, on the Know-Nothing ticket, and in 1858 he was chosen by the same party as one of the School Commissioners of Westchester county. But in 1859 "Know-Nothingism" degenerated into a mere tender to the Democratic party of the day, and Mr. HUSTED became disgusted and left it, feeling justly that he could not consent to a betrayal of the principles upon which the party was founded.

During the Utica Convention, held in that year, when the "Hybrid" ticket was formed, he published a protest against it and joined the Republican party. In 1860 he was appointed Deputy Superintendent of the State Insurance Department by Hon. WILLIAM BARNES, the then Superintendent, and during the presidential campaign of that year was Vice-President of the large and flourishing club of Albany "Wide Awakes," of which Hon. J. MEREDITH READ, Jr., now minister to Greece, was President. During this campaign Mr. HUSTED performed effective service for the Republican cause. Since 1862 he has been Harbor Master of the city of New York, and, until recently, was Deputy Captain of the port.

In the fall of 1868 Mr. HUSTED was elected to the Assembly from the Third district of Westchester county by 207 majority. He made an honorable record as a debater and as a legislator during his first session, being Chairman of the Committee on Federal Relations, and member of the Committee on Commerce and Navigation. The next year he was re-elected by 1,144 majority, running 837 ahead of his ticket, and 417 ahead in his own town. Since then he has been regularly re-elected, his majority in 1871 reaching the unprecedented figure of 1,509. In 1872, owing to local complications and the defection of Liberal Republicans, it was reduced to 502, but last fall he again demonstrated his popularity and astonished friends as well as opponents by achieving a majority of 1,864. He served during the last four terms on the Committees on Commerce and Navigation, Ways and Means, Grievances, and Federal Relations, being

again Chairman of the latter Committee in 1872, and Chairman of Education in 1873. In 1872 he was also Chairman of Rules, Local and Special Laws, and Congressional Apportionment. In 1873 he was Chairman also of Congressional Apportionment.

Gen. HUSTED has been frequently honored with responsible positions by the party to which he belongs, and he in turn has honored the party with his best efforts, but his sphere of useful activity has not been confined to politics. He is one of the most prominent members of the Masonic Fraternity in the State, and has reached to the highest honors in the order, being a member of the Order of Knights Templar, and entitled to wear the jewel of the 33d degree. For several years he has held the rank of D. D. G. M., and is now Junior Grand Warden. He has also been Judge Advocate on the staff of the Seventh Brigade, New York State Militia.

On March 26, 1873, he was nominated by Gov. DIX to be Major-General of the Fifth Division of the National Guard, in place of Gen. GATES who had resigned, and he was immediately confirmed by the Senate. The appointment was universally recognized as an eminently fit one, and none were more hearty in their congratulations than his fellow members of the last Assembly. On the evening after the announcement of his appointment the following resolution was offered by a Democratic member, and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That always feeling a deep interest in the personal and official relations of our fellow members, and a warm regard for them individually, we desire to express our heartfelt thanks to Gov. DIX for his promotion of the Hon. JAMES W. HUSTED to the command of the military forces of the Fifth Division, and that as he has been first in peace, we know he will, in the event of a great military necessity, be first in war, and in the future first in the hearts of his countrymen.

The General's popularity among the members of the National Guard is well shown by the fact that he was unani-

mously elected, in January last, as President of the State Military Association.

General HUSTED has enjoyed a pre-eminence among politicians and legislators by reason of his splendid abilities. Few men in the State excel him in those accomplishments which mark the successful statesman. He possesses a clear and brilliant intellect, sound judgment, a ready off-hand manner, and is, withal, an acute reasoner and polished orator; and when we add that his gifts of mind and heart are never used to further corrupt or doubtful schemes, we complete a catalogue which is infinitely to the credit of our subject.

His dashing style of debate, and the lightning-like rapidity with which he grasps the situation of the moment, together with his bold, concise and incisive mode of argument, and sometimes startling readiness at repartee, render him not only formidable to his opponents, but exceedingly popular among all classes of men. He is a master of the art of sarcasm, and, as he usually veils his keen and merciless retorts in elegant language and apt classical allusion, the wounds made by his sharp thrusts produce much more pleasure than pain, even to those upon whom they are inflicted. In the most exciting passages of partisan debate, Mr. HUSTED is ever courteous and cool, while in argument he is clear, connected and logical, his more ambitious speeches being frequently enriched with pointed anecdote and scholarly illustration. He speaks very rapidly, and has surprising command of language, while his thorough knowledge of parliamentary rules enables him to be perfectly at home in the most bewildering cross-fire of motions and counter-motions characteristic of legislative fillibustering and bushwhacking.

Socially, the Speaker possesses rare gifts. Genial and talented, a brilliant conversationalist, and an adept in all the accomplishments and qualities which constitute the gentleman, he is peculiarly fitted to ornament society and win friendship and esteem. His unaffected manners and sterling qualities have rendered him extremely popular with the peo-

ple at large, while the same traits, in connection with his solid attainments, have secured him hosts of friends in the field of letters and politics. He is, in every respect, an ornament to the Speaker's chair.

HECTOR ABEEL.

Very little is known concerning the antecedents of HECTOR ABEEL, the Democratic Member from the Second district of Ulster county. His exceeding modesty concerning the events of his past life is perhaps commendable, but it fails to satisfy the natural curiosity which will be felt concerning him, now that he has broken the shell of his former obscurity by becoming a Member of Assembly. We only know that he was born under the shadow of the Catskill Mountains, in the pleasant riverside town of that name, that he now resides in the village of Stone Ridge, Ulster county, and that he was elected by some three hundred majority to succeed Mr. BROWN, a Republican, whose origin and personal history, singularly enough, was last year involved in similar mystery. At this writing, Mr. ABEEL's character, as a legislator, has not developed sufficiently to enable us to give a very intelligible idea thereof. He is a short, somewhat wiry, and nervous individual, with a shrill voice and rather unobtrusive manner. He is evidently a man of energy and determination, and few, we imagine, would set him down as other than a man of honest purpose. He is a member of the Committee on Agriculture.

FRANKLIN A. ALBERGER.

Few men who figure in State politics occupy a more conspicuous position than the Member from the Third district of Erie county; and it may also be added that few have been identified to a greater degree with the material and commercial progress of the commonwealth. Representing a constituency largely composed of those connected with the mercantile and shipping interests, and being himself one of that class for many years, he has a clear appreciation of the importance of developing to the utmost every means likely to augment the commercial greatness of the State. His long experience as Canal Commissioner has given him a thorough insight into the workings of the great arteries of inter-communication, and enabled him to fully understand their relation to the stupendous eastward movement of the agricultural products of the great west. He has, therefore, always been the earnest advocate of every project which commended itself to his judgment as likely to effect an increase in the capacity of the canals, and enable them to successfully compete with other transportation routes from the west to the Atlantic sea-board. His views upon the subject of canal policy are not only clear and decided, but liberal and progressive, and founded upon a regard for the best interests of the State at large, rather than of special localities. Indeed, his convictions upon every subject brought before the Legislature are quickly and generally judiciously formed and tenaciously adhered to. Enjoying a large business experience, as well as an intimate knowledge of State affairs, and also of men and events, Mr. ALBERGER is peculiarly qualified to perform the duties of legislation.

Born in Baltimore, Md., on the 14th of January, 1825, of parents who were both natives of that city, Mr. ALBERGER

received a liberal education in district and select schools. He removed to Buffalo at the age of 17 years, and engaged in the butchering and provision business, which he prosecuted successfully until the year 1868. He early became very active in the local politics of Erie county, and was prominently identified, first with the Whig and then with the Republican party. It is a notable fact, in this connection, that he was a member of the last Whig convention, and also of the first Republican convention held in Erie county. He was also Secretary of the first Republican meeting held in the city of Buffalo, and a member of the first County Committee of that party, acting as its Treasurer during a period of ten years. During the native American campaigns, Mr. ALBERGER was decided in his hostility to the movement — his uncompromising opposition to every thing savoring of Know-Nothingism being doubtless still remembered by those familiar with the political contests of those days.

Mr. ALBERGER's known ability and integrity have marked him as peculiarly a fit man in almost any capacity. He has, therefore, often been called upon to fill positions of trust and responsibility. As early as 1854, he was elected an Alderman of Buffalo, and was re-elected in 1858 and 1859. In 1860 the people of Buffalo chose him as their Mayor, and so acceptably did he fill the position during the term of two years that the eyes of the State at large were turned upon him, and in 1862 he was elected to the office of Canal Commissioner, in which he served six years, two successive terms, being nominated each time by acclamation. Mr. A. is now serving his fourth consecutive term as Member of Assembly, and it is a sufficient indication of his growing popularity to state that his majorities were, respectively, in 1870, 189; in 1871, 881; in 1872, 1,861; and in 1873, 1,569.

Besides these public positions, strictly political in their nature, Mr. ALBERGER has held numerous private and business trusts. During the war, he was Chairman of the Military Relief Fund of the city of Buffalo, and was also Chair-

man of the committees charged with raising and equipping the 21st and 49th Regiments of volunteers. The last-named regiment was raised with such celerity that it was the first completed regiment raised outside of New York city under the second call for volunteers.

As a public speaker, Mr. ALBERGER is forcible and fluent. His speeches usually bristle with a formidable array of facts and figures, and upon them he relies rather than upon fervid eloquence or brilliant rhetoric. He takes part in the debates upon all questions which come before the House, and displays equal familiarity with his subject, whether it relates to government, law, social reform or commerce. His appointment as chairman of the Canal Committee of the present House was one the fitness of which is universally recognized. He is also a valuable member of the Committees on Privileges and Elections, and Rules, and no member, perhaps, performs more of the hard work of legislation than the tall and stately gentleman from Erie. In religious belief and connection Mr. ALBERGER is a Presbyterian, but his views on religion, as on other subjects, are broad and liberal. He was married June 16, 1847, to Miss KATE RICE.

JOHN J. ALLEN.

The Second district of Kings, which generally sends capable representatives to the capital, is this year specially fortunate. Mr. ALLEN, who fills the seat allotted to that constituency, is a young lawyer of unusually brilliant promise. Though he has but just passed his thirtieth year, he has already achieved a fair legal reputation, and made a creditable record in several important public positions. He is not greatly given to speech making, but he possesses the ability

to talk well on any subject; while his ready tact and sound judgment render him a valuable and efficient Member of the lower house.

He was born in Utica, N. Y., on the 4th of August, 1842. His parents removed to Vermont when he was quite young, however, and his character, therefore, bears somewhat the stamp of a New England bringing up. His early education was received mainly in the City Academy at Burlington, and it was there that he prepared for college. At the age of sixteen he entered the University of Vermont, passed through the full course, and graduated with honor in the year 1862. Soon thereafter he commenced the study of law. While pursuing his studies, a favorable opening presented itself in New York city, and proceeding thither, he accepted a position upon the staff of the Provost Marshal, and during the last year of the bureau he had entire charge of the Fourth Provost District. While he was still an incumbent the bureau was abolished, and young ALLEN again turned his attention to his legal studies. He entered the Columbia College Law School, acquitted himself creditably, and graduated in 1866 with all the honors. He at once took high rank as a lawyer, as is evidenced by the fact that very soon after his graduation he received the appointment of Assistant District Attorney for the eastern district of New York, under Hon. BENJAMIN D. SILLIMAN, the Republican candidate for Attorney-General last fall, and when Mr. SILLIMAN retired, Mr. ALLEN was continued in the office under BENJAMIN F. TRACY, receiving his appointment from Attorney-General EVARTS. He held this responsible position until March, 1873, when he resigned, and has since practiced his profession in Brooklyn.

During his residence in Brooklyn Mr. ALLEN has participated actively in politics, and he is widely known as an unswerving Republican, a hard worker, and a man who combines many elements of popularity. Very few Brooklyn men in public life possess the confidence of the community to a

greater extent, and in the third ward, where he resides, he is highly esteemed by all classes. He was nominated for his present position by acclamation, no other name being even mentioned in the convention.

In a speech which he made after receiving the nomination, he laid down a rule for his own guidance which is perhaps the best definition of the duties of a legislator yet enunciated. After thanking his friends for the honor they had just conferred upon him, he informed them that it would be his endeavor, if elected, to execute the wishes of those whom he represented, having regard not to the preference of any clique or faction, but to the best interests of all. That expression, we take it, presents the case in a nutshell, and it would not be a bad idea if some such sentiment were inscribed prominently upon the walls of the Assembly chamber. In the canvass which followed he ran 500 votes ahead of the regular Republican ticket, receiving a majority of 652.

In the assignment of committees, Mr. ALLEN was placed on Banks and State Charitable Institutions.

THOMAS G. ALVORD.

It seems well nigh a superfluous task to attempt a biographical sketch of the venerable and well known Member from Onondaga. The record of his long and honorable legislative career is part of the history of the State, and there ought to be very few people who need to be told who or what he is. While a member of the Legislature he has always ranked among its foremost men in point of ability, while his experience, tact and foresight have rendered him an exceedingly valuable and efficient member. His legislative career has not been distinguished so much for that brilliancy which captivates people for a time as for a plain

matter-of-fact course, which has not been greatly interrupted by mistakes, and being almost invariably characterized by those efforts which have a telling effect upon men. There is nothing visionary about Mr. ALVORD. If he theorizes, his theories are based upon substantial facts and lead to obvious conclusions, while his views upon every question are well considered and practical. As a "floor" member of the lower branch of the Legislature, Mr. ALVORD has had very few, if any, superiors. He is always at his post, watches closely every step in legislative progress, always has a ready argument at his tongue's end, no matter what the topic which may call it forth, is fertile in expedients, in ready replies, or in daring parliamentary manœuvres, and is in every way a shrewd political manager and formidable opponent. Though he is reputed to be somewhat unscrupulous in his hostility to men and measures, he never seeks to gain an advantage by the questionable tactics sometimes resorted to by less skillful politicians. His great strength lies in his splendid oratorical ability, his practical and well nigh exhaustive legal and political knowledge, and his thorough mastery of parliamentary rules. In the latter respect he is almost without a peer, and his opinion upon points of order is rarely questioned by the most self-sufficient opponent.

Mr. ALVORD was born in Onondaga, Onondaga county, on the 20th of December, 1810. He is, therefore, about sixty-four years of age. His father, ELISHA ALVORD, was a merchant, and formerly resided in Lansingburgh, Rensselaer county. The ALVORD family are of English descent, their ancestors emigrating to this country in the year 1638. His mother's name was HELEN LANSING, of Holland ancestry, and both of his grandfathers were revolutionary pensioners, his maternal grandfather being a captain in the campaign which resulted in Burgoyne's surrender. The combination of the two national characteristics—English and Dutch—is quite apparent in the subject of our sketch.

Mr. ALVORD graduated from Yale College in 1828, his

previous preparatory education having been gained at the Lansingburgh academy. Having completed his collegiate course, he studied law for two years with THOMAS A. TOMLINSON and GEORGE A. SIMMONS, at Keeseville, Essex county, and one year with CHARLES P. KIRKLAND and WM. J. BACON, at Utica, N. Y. He began the practice of his profession January 1, 1833, at Salina, now the first ward of the city of Syracuse, and continued until 1846. Since that time he has been a lumberman and salt manufacturer, and has been quite successful, though he has devoted much of his time to politics and legislation.

In politics he was originally a hard-shell Democrat; but he united with the Republicans in 1864. When the war broke out he was conspicuous in his adherence to the Union cause, and was twice elected to the Assembly as a Union and War Democrat. Since that time he has been a Republican of independent proclivities. In the Presidential campaign of 1872 he acted with the Liberals and voted for HORACE GREELEY. Though he was elected to his present position mainly by Democratic and Liberal votes, he made no pledges and is recognized as an independent Republican in the fullest sense. He was first elected to the Assembly in 1844, and he also served in that body in 1858, 1862, 1864, 1870, 1871 and 1872. He was Speaker of the House in 1858 and 1864, and in that capacity gained great popularity.

In 1864 he was elected Lieutenant-Governor, running on the ticket with Governor FENTON, and served through 1865 and 1866. As president of the Senate he presided with dignity, judgment and discrimination, ruling with uniform impartiality, and very generally winning the respect of Senators of both parties. He also represented his native county, Onondaga, in the State Constitutional Convention of 1868, '69. In the deliberations of that convention, which was composed of some of the ablest gentlemen in the State, Mr. ALVORD played a prominent part and won a deserved reputation as a skillful debater.

During his service in the Assembly, Mr. ALVORD has served on many of its most important committees, having been Chairman of Ways and Means, and member at different times of Canals, Judiciary, Grievances and others. In the present House, notwithstanding his somewhat equivocal political position, he is on the Ways and Means and Canal Committees. His vote in the recent canvass stood 2,851 against 2,571 for Wm. H. H. GERE, by whom he was defeated in 1872 by over four hundred majority.

JOHN P. BADGER.

JOHN PEASLEE BADGER, who is now serving his second term, was born in Ossipee, Carroll county, N. H., August 3, 1834. He is a son of Wm. P. C. BADGER, a native of Compton, P. Q., but born of American parents. While yet in early infancy he came with his parents to this State, and is consequently a New Yorker to all intents and purposes. His father and mother are still living in comfortable circumstances, the former being about sixty years of age. Young BADGER was educated in the common schools, and though his early life was spent upon the farm and in a country store, of which he was proprietor for several years, he availed himself of every opportunity to prepare himself for the legal profession, to which he looked forward as his chosen pursuit. He finally entered the Albany Law School, graduated with credit in November, 1871, and shortly afterward was admitted to the bar. Since that time he has practiced law with success, already taking a respectable rank among the lawyers of his county.

Mr. BADGER learned his first political lessons in the American party, and was an ardent member of that party during

its brief existence, voting for MILLARD FILLMORE for President. When its elements were scattered he identified himself with the Republicans, with whom he has continued to act up to the present time. He is constitutionally quite an active man, and has therefore been a participant in Franklin county politics for a number of years past. Twice he has been elected to represent his town in the Board of Supervisors — in 1870 and 1872. Though his town was formerly Democratic, he carried it when first elected by a majority of 32. In his second canvass his majority was 46, in a total vote of 300; and in the fall of 1872 he carried it in the Assembly canvass by the gratifying majority of 141, his entire majority in the county over W. W. PADDOCK, being 1,214, or about 40 votes ahead of the State ticket. Last fall his majority over BAKER STEVENS was 1,067, the majority for the State ticket being about 900. These figures speak well for the popularity of the Franklin county Member at home.

Mr. BADGER's frank and modest deportment and evident ability attracted popular regard very early in the last session. He developed great aptitude for legislative duties, being not only an excellent speaker, but an invaluable committeeman. As member of the Committees on State Prisons, Federal Relations, and Engrossed Bills, he made an excellent record. This year he is Chairman of State Prisons, and member of Grievances and Sub-committee of the Whole.

He is a consistent and earnest member of the Methodist church, and possesses a character entirely above reproach. He was married in January, 1855, to Miss EMILY E. PHELPS.

GEORGE BARROW.

GEORGE BARROW was born in the brick house, still standing, on the north-east corner of Clinton and Henry streets, New York city, March 14, 1839. He is a direct lineal descendant of ROBERT BARROW, who was baptised at Cartmel Priory church, Lancashire, England, in the year 1530. The records of this church (endowed by the Earl of Pembroke, A. D. 1187), do not extend back of this period. JOHN BARROW, the grandfather of Mr. BARROW, left Lancashire early in life for the West Indies, but shortly afterward came to Long Island, and subsequently for many years resided upon Pearl street, then a fashionable street in the city of New York, engaged in manufacturing, and afterward in insurance, as President of the City Fire Insurance Company of New York. JOHN BARROW, the father, was born here in 1797, and, at the age of twenty-five years, was married to ELIZABETH M. PRIOR, who became the mother of the subject of this sketch, and nine other children. JOHN BARROW died in February last, at an advanced age and greatly respected. ELIZABETH M. PRIOR is a lineal descendant of EDMUND PRIOR. He was a sterling old Quaker of anti-slavery fame, a puritan preacher, who came to America shortly after the arrival of the Mayflower. Subsequently his family espoused the faith of the Society of Friends, and removed, for greater religious freedom, to the vicinity of Huntington, Long Island. EDMUND PRIOR, grandfather of Mr. BARROW, was a banker and merchant, residing in New York city, doing an extensive business, and having among his customers such men as Baron STEUBEN, LA FAYETTE, etc.

Four of the brothers of Mr. BARROW died in early manhood. EDMUND P. BARROW, who attained the greatest age of the four, was at the age of twenty-four a Member of the

Assembly of 1854, from the Fifth New York district, elected on a reform ticket. He died in the year 1857, at the age of twenty-eight. Mr. BARROW's mother is still living in good health, at the age of seventy-eight years.

The only educational advantages of Mr. BARROW have been common school, with one or two terms at private school, and the general advantages of a cultured home. He studied law in the office of BENONI LEE, Esq., at Skaneateles, and subsequently in the office of SEDGWICK, ANDREWS & KENNEDY, at Syracuse, and was admitted to practice October 4, 1860. Since that time he has practiced law at Skaneateles with good success. He became interested in politics at the time of the formation of the Republican party, and has since been an active and ardent Republican, inclined to partisanship rather than liberalism. He has held several town offices. In 1863, he was elected justice of the peace for the town of Skaneateles, but the office interfering with the practice of his profession, he resigned it the same year. In 1865, his name was presented to the Republican convention for member of Assembly, but Mr. RANNY, a former member, was renominated by a majority of one. He has repeatedly been a member of the Republican County Committee, and, during several active campaigns, a "Stump speaker."

During the late war Mr. BARROW was an active homemaker, his office for about two years being practically a recruiting office.

In the canvass of last fall two candidates were arrayed against him, MATHIAS BRITTON, Democrat, and DANIEL PINCKNEY, Temperance. He received a plurality, however, of 279, and a majority over both of 33. In the House he is a member of the Committees on Villages, Banks, and Engrossed Bills.

Mr. BARROW was married September 29, 1863, to CAROLINE M. TYLER of Skaneateles. He is a member of the Protestant Episcopal Church. He has been a frequent contributor of editorials to the public journals, and as a writer of fiction

has contributed to the *Atlantic Monthly* and other leading magazines.

Mr. BARROW is a fluent and agreeable speaker, and a man of varied learning. During his student life his inclinations were of a literary nature, and he frequently lectured before the lyceums and literary societies of his own and neighboring towns. He possesses in a large degree those qualities of head and heart which win favor and popularity, and he evidently has a brilliant career yet before him. In business matters he is the soul of honor, and socially he is genial and companionable—a cultivated and courteous gentleman. His constituency may well felicitate itself upon being well and effectively represented at the capitol this year.

BENJAMIN J. BASSETT.

The subject of this notice is a plain substantial farmer, and has been such all his life. He has always been of the opinion that a vigorous and persistent appeal to “mother earth” is certain to open up the most reliable source of income, and his experience has been such as to demonstrate the correctness of that opinion, as he has succeeded in securing and acquiring a handsome competency for himself and family. He was born at Walton, his present place of residence, in the year 1812, and was the son of the Rev. ARCHIBALD and KEZIAH BASSETT, who were natives of Litchfield, Conn. Both his parents are now dead. Though he was brought up on a farm from early youth, he received a liberal common school and academic education. In 1837 he married MARY L. BENTON at Hudson, Columbia county.

In politics, Mr. BASSETT was from the first an anti-slavery Democrat. He was a member of the State convention which

met in Utica on the memorable 21st of October, 1835, for the purpose of forming a State anti-slavery society. Many residents of Utica still possess a vivid remembrance of that gathering. It met in a church, and had hardly began its deliberations before it was broken up by a mob composed of "gentlemen of property and standing," and headed by certain high officials. This outrage upon the rights of free speech produced its inevitable fruit, however, as the sentiment of hostility to the "institution" continued from that time to gather strength. Since then Mr. BASSETT never swerved in his antagonism to slavery, and usually, previous to 1855, acted with the Barnburner branch of the Democracy. On the organization of the Republican party he promptly gave it his hearty support, and has steadily acted with it up to the present time, uniformly urging economy in the administration of government, and strongly opposing any thing in the nature of "salary grabbing," or pilfering from the public in any manner.

He has held various civil offices in his town and district, and, in 1869, was a Member of Assembly, being upon the Committee of Ways and Means. He has also filled with credit various positions in the New York State National Guard, from the minor offices to Brigadier General.

In religious sentiment and profession Mr. BASSETT is a Presbyterian, but he is quite tolerant in his views, and favors the largest degree of freedom of opinion and action in regard to religious matters, believing that it is always safe to trust the truth in open conflict with error.

GEORGE S. BATCHELLER.

Gen. BATCHELLER is well entitled to rank among the most distinguished Members of the Assembly. His rare social qualities, splendid abilities and personal magnetism have also placed him among the most popular members, and it is safe to assert that there are few men, whether in or out of the capitol, who occupy a higher place in public estimation than Gen. GEORGE S. BATCHELLER. He was born in Batchellerville, Saratoga county, July 25, 1837, and is, therefore, nearly thirty-seven years of age. He is descended from a somewhat illustrious ancestry. His father's family were originally Irish, and went to Spain with the O'DONOHUE. From thence, after several generations, their descendants found their way to this country, and settled in Massachusetts. Gen. B.'s father, SHERMAN BATCHELLER, was born in Vermont, and was a nephew of ROGER SHERMAN, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, and was also related, though distantly, to DANIEL WEBSTER's family. He died suddenly in 1862. The General's mother was of English descent, and a native of Massachusetts. Gen. BATCHELLER is a thoroughly educated gentleman, having graduated at Harvard University, and received the degree of LL. B. from the law school of that institution. He entered Harvard in the junior year, but was obliged to limit his course, though he was enabled to complete the scientific course successfully, receiving a diploma which entitles him to the degree of Ph. B. In 1858, about a year after leaving college, he was admitted to the bar, and soon rose to eminence in his profession. In the fall of the same year, he was elected to the Assembly from the same district now represented by him. This proved the stepping-stone to what is as yet an uncompleted career of brilliant and honorable public service.

Two or three years later, the war of the rebellion broke out. He entered the volunteer service, acting as Major until he was commissioned as Lieutenant-Colonel in the One Hundred and Fifteenth New York Volunteers, and, though but recently married, he went to the front with that command. He participated in all the battles and skirmishes in which the regiment was engaged, until he was taken prisoner at Harper's Ferry, in September of the same year. Early in 1863 he was exchanged, and received the appointment of Deputy Provost-Marshal-General in the department of the South. He held this responsible position, having under his charge all the civil and military matters pertaining to that office, in those portions of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida within our lines, until the winter of 1864, serving under Generals HUNTER, GILMORE, SEYMOUR and others. Subsequently he was transferred to Elmira to look after drafted men for his department, and there honorably discharged from the service, receiving the rank of brevet-Colonel.

In 1865 he was appointed Inspector-General on the staff of Governor FENTON, and held the position during the four years' administration of that official. While Inspector-General, he reorganized the National Guard throughout the State, and, as President of the Auditing Board, examined and presented to the general government claims of the State for organizing volunteer forces, amounting to several hundred thousand dollars, which the United States has since allowed and paid.

In 1868 he ran as GRANT elector for the Eighteenth, now Nineteenth, Congressional district. Since 1868 Gen. BATCHELLER has applied himself diligently to his profession, and to the enjoyment of those home pleasures to which he had almost become a stranger. In the fall of 1872, however, the Republicans of his district tendered him, with one accord, the nomination for the Assembly, and, after a lively canvass, he was elected a Member of that body by the largest majority ever given in the district, although his opponent, CHARLES

H. HOLDEN, was an agent of the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, and backed by the influence of that organization, the managers of which made special efforts to elect him. Speaker CORNELL paid a marked compliment to Gen. B.'s sagacity and knowledge of State affairs, by selecting him as Chairman of the Canal Committee, and also placing him on the Committee on Militia.

In the fall of 1873 he received the unusual compliment of a re-election without opposition, and, as Chairman of the Ways and Means committee, and also as member of Militia, and Privileges and Elections, occupies what is usually regarded as the leading position in the House.

Gen. BATCHELLER is a man of fine figure, polished manners and pleasant address. Courteous alike to friends and opponents, he is in every respect the affable and genial gentleman. With fine oratorical powers and rare forensic ability, he unites a ready appreciation of legislative requirements, and is, therefore, a skillful and effective debater. He is at all times keenly alive to the welfare of his immediate constituents, but he is as watchful of the interests of the entire State, and every measure designed to effect genuine reform in State or municipal government, or likely to advance the commercial prosperity of the commonwealth, invariably enlists his sympathy, and, should his judgment approve, his enthusiastic advocacy. Few men in the State enjoy a larger measure of personal popularity, or have yet before them a more promising future. Gen. BATCHELLER was married, in 1861, to the daughter of the late Hon. JAMES M. COOK.

GEORGE M. BEEBE.

GEORGE MONROE BEEBE was born in New Vernon, Orange county, on the 28th of October, 1836. He is the son of GILBERT BEEBE, a native of Connecticut, who, still living in Middletown, Orange county, at the advanced age of 72, is actively engaged in the varied occupation of preaching the gospel and publishing the *Signs of the Times*, a religious newspaper. Mr. BEEBE secured a good education at the common schools and at the Wallkill Academy, Middletown, graduating from the latter in 1854. Next year he commenced studying law in the office of GEO. W. LORD, in Monticello, attending, in the mean time, the requisite courses of lectures, and graduated from the Albany Law University, in 1857, with the degree of Bachelor of Law. A year later he went to Peoria, Ill., where, on the recommendation of STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS, he had been selected to edit a Democratic daily newspaper. Though young in years, he was an earnest and spirited writer, and rendered efficient service in the memorable campaign of 1858, accompanying DOUGLAS in his famous tour of discussion with ABRAHAM LINCOLN. At the close of the campaign he settled in Troy, Kansas, and commenced practicing law in earnest. He succeeded in making himself so popular there that, in about a year, he was elected, notwithstanding his pronounced Democracy, to represent the Republican county of Doniphan in the Territorial Council. While still a member of the Council, he was appointed Secretary of the Territory by President BUCHANAN. Subsequently, by the resignation of Gov. MEDARY, he became acting Governor, and although he had not yet completed his twenty-third year, he was continued in the position by the President until Kansas was admitted into the Union.

In 1861 he married CORNELIA, the eldest daughter of

JAMES H. FOSTER, of Monticello. Subsequently, he practiced law during a year or more at St. Joseph, Mo., but in August, 1862, he went overland to Virginia City, Nevada, where he again "nailed up his shingle" as an Attorney and Counselor at law. Wherever he located, he gained speedy popularity. In 1864, when Nevada was admitted as a State, we find Mr. BEEBE the nominee of a Democratic Convention for District Judge, for which office he was defeated by a small majority. Subsequently he declined the appointment of United States Internal Revenue Collector for Nevada, which was tendered by President JOHNSON, but he consented to represent the new State in the Philadelphia Convention of 1866. In October of that year he purchased the *Monticello Watchman*, a Democratic journal, and removing at once to Monticello, he has since conducted that paper with marked ability and success. In the fall of 1871, Mr. BEEBE was the Democratic nominee in the Orange and Sullivan district for the State Senate, and took strong ground against the use of money in elections, tendering a public challenge to his opponent to unite with him in a pledge not to use money in the canvass. He was beaten, however, Hon. E. M. MADDEN, the present Senator from that district, being successful. In the spring of 1872, he was a delegate to the Rochester Convention, and strongly opposed the policy of indorsing GREELEY. He also fought the idea with warmth and earnestness in his paper; but after the Baltimore Convention, being left with the only alternative of "GRANT or GREELEY," he felt constrained to support the latter. He was also sent as a Delegate to the Syracuse Convention of 1872, and was unanimously chosen its permanent President, in which position he displayed marked ability as a presiding officer. He took active part in the subsequent campaign, stumping the State for the Liberal-Democratic ticket. His nomination for the Assembly the same year was made by acclamation in both the Liberal and Democratic Conventions, and he was elected by a majority of 664, though the county gave GRANT a majority of some 200. He was also temporary

President of the Democratic Convention at Utica in 1873, and was re-elected to the Assembly almost without opposition. JAMES HARDENBURGH was in the field against him, but he received only 415 votes out of 3,358 cast. Mr. BEEBE served last session on the committees on Ways and Means, Privileges and Elections, and Local and Special Laws. This year, though a member of the minority, he serves on Ways and Means, Canals, Militia, and Local and Special Laws.

As will be gathered from this sketch, Mr. BEEBE is, and always has been, an unflinching Democrat. On first entering the Assembly he assumed a prominent position among the members of the "opposition," and his career as a legislator has been thus far a most brilliant one. Possessing rare oratorical powers, he is cool, incisive and compact in argument, thinks rapidly, and is prompt, either in availing himself of the weak points of his opponent, or in arranging his own line of attack or defense. He is frequently strongly denunciatory in his speeches, using, in his polished invective, the plainest and at the same time the most cutting words in the language. He is also master of the art of sarcasm, and often covers an antagonist with confusion by a deftly hurled shaft of ridicule. The Member from Sullivan is justly considered one of the most forcible and effective debaters in the present House.

HARRIS H. BEECHER.

The paternal parent of the subject of this sketch, PARSON BEECHER, was among the earlier pioneers of Chenango county, removing from the parish of Salem, Connecticut, now Naugatuck, in the year 1806, and locating in Coventry, New York. Like many of the earlier settlers, fearing the miasmatic diseases and reputed sickness of the low lands and river courses, he sought out an elevated location, between the

Chenango and Susquehanna rivers, embracing, originally, one hundred acres of wilderness land. In January, 1808, he married MARGARET PORTER, an intelligent and interesting young woman of his native town — now living, at the advanced age of ninety, with mind unimpaired — and removed her to a log cabin in his forest home. Roads were designated, principally, by marked trees, while churches, schools, mills and neighbors even, if not wholly unknown, were like angels' visits, "few and far between." The second year of his advent at Coventry, the Catskill and Ithaca turnpike was located through the scattered clearing of that wilderness region, and it subsequently became an important highway, between the then "far west" and the Hudson river. The first framed house, upon what was known as the "Livingston Tract," and the first between Bainbridge and Greene, a distance of sixteen miles, was built by PARSON BEECHER. Town meetings and elections were then regularly held, as well as stated preaching every fourth Sabbath.

Upon that homestead, in the enjoyment of such educational advantages as a limited income would allow, a large family was reared to usefulness, honesty and sobriety, and among them the present Member of the House from Chenango. His boyhood days were not unlike those of other lads similarly circumstanced, and were divided between the district school and the farm.

Having been incapacitated for manual labor from an injury producing painful and protracted lameness, at the age of some sixteen years he was sent to Oxford Academy, one of the oldest and best institutions of the kind in the State. Here he remained some four years, teaching at intervals, to defray in part the expenses necessarily incurred.

Becoming somewhat advanced in a college course, which he could not pursue for lack of funds, he turned his attention to medicine as the business of his life. His medical studies were pursued in Coventry, under the instruction of different practitioners, and subsequently, in Binghamton, in

the office of doctor, now Professor Davis of Chicago, teaching, in the meantime, not having been wholly relinquished. About the year 1848, Dr. BEECHER graduated in medicine, at Castleton, Vermont, and finally located in North Norwich, where he practiced his profession for many years. In 1861, the doctor removed to Norwich, which is his present home.

In the summer of 1862, the call for 300,000 more men to suppress the Rebellion found Dr. BEECHER actively engaged in practice at the county seat of Chenango. He at once interested himself in the recruiting service, and further showed his faith by his works in accompanying, as a medical officer, the brave boys of the 114th New York to the front. By his assiduous attention and sympathetic heart, he became deservedly popular with the men and won the esteem of all. For nearly nine months, Surgeon BEECHER was on duty, by order of Gen. Banks, at the U. S. Marine General Hospital, New Orleans, and also for several months in charge of a Post Hospital at Berwick City, La., containing a large number of wounded from the battle field of Bisland. Before leaving the Marine Hospital, for the famous Red River campaign, he was presented, by the soldiers of that hospital, with an elegant gold-headed cane, and other valuable tokens of their appreciation and regard. In the Shenandoah, during the closing year of the war, he was most of the time the only medical officer, with his regiment, in the field.

While yet young, Mr. BEECHER exhibited quite a literary taste, and early commenced writing upon miscellaneous subjects for the newspaper press, which, in the midst of other duties, he has continued more or less constantly to the present time.

His "Army Correspondence," published mainly in the papers of his district, was eagerly sought for and read with interest.

After the war, desiring that the noble deeds of his brave comrades should live in history as well as in the hearts of a grateful people and surviving friends, Dr. BEECHER pub-

lished a Record of his Regiment, embracing nearly 600 pages, dedicated to the memory of his lamented Colonel SMITH and all his fallen comrades, graphically setting forth, as the title page indicates, "Where it went, what it saw and what it did." The author of that comprehensive Record has also spent much time and made considerable progress in gathering facts and data for a Memorial Record, portions of which have been published, of all the deceased soldiers of the late war, nearly 1000, in Chenango county.

Without laying any special claim to oratory, Dr. BEECHER has, on various occasions, given carefully prepared addresses, embracing medicine, agriculture, scientific and political subjects, and always with success. He takes a deep interest in educational matters, having held the position of School Superintendent, long serving also as a Trustee of Norwich Academy and President of the Board.

As a medical man he stands deservedly high, having filled various offices in the medical society of his county, being at the present time a member of the State Society, and a permanent member of the New York Central and American Medical Associations.

In politics, Dr. BEECHER was reared a Democrat and was known during the rebellion as a War Democrat. The attitude of the Democratic party in 1868, in his opinion, not only justified, but to be consistent with himself and his record as a soldier, demanded a severance from it. It was a severe trial to cut loose from old political associations, many of whom were his personal friends, but having deliberately decided as to his duty, no sacrifice, in its discharge, was too dear to make. He spoke and voted for General GRANT, and has since firmly upheld the principles of the Republican party.

Dr. BEECHER was elected over two opposing candidates, after a spirited contest, by a plurality of 136 votes. He serves on the Committees on Public Health, Public Education and Joint Library. Watchful as a legislator, he is not

ambitious to distinguish himself as a debater, though on several occasions he has given able expression to his views.

Dr. BEECHER is one of the bachelors of the House.

GEORGE C. BENNETT.

The Eighth District of Kings county is fortunate in being again represented by Mr. GEORGE C. BENNETT, who is an energetic and wide-awake journalist, and ever alive to the welfare of his constituency. The Assembly of 1872 contained no more conscientious or industrious Member, and a similar devotion to the public interests marks his course thus far during the present session. He was born in London on the 24th of September, 1824, and emigrated to this country in the summer of 1836, being then not quite twelve years of age. His only relative in this country was an uncle. On his arrival in the New World, he engaged himself to a cabinet maker, with whom he remained three years. The labor was not to his liking, however, and he tried a year at farming with his uncle, who resided in Morris county, New Jersey, and finally, in the spring of 1841, he was employed by JOHN W. OLIVER to learn the printing business. With Mr. OLIVER, who is still in business in New York city, and still his warm friend, he remained eight or nine months, when he was regularly apprenticed to a firm of printers doing business at the corner of Nassau and Wall streets, under the name of SACKETT & SARGENT. This firm failed in business in the course of a couple of years, when Mr. BENNETT engaged himself with JOSEPH SNOWDEN, whose place of business was in Gold street, between Beekman and Spruce, in New York city, the office being one which had formerly been owned by SCRATCHARD & ADAMS. This ADAMS, by the way, was murdered by JOHN C. COLT, as a

result of his pertinacious efforts to collect a printer's bill. Mr. BENNETT was employed successively in several different printing offices in New York city up to near the close of December, 1846. He then went to Williamsburgh, L. I., and, with two other "jour." printers and a young writer named ISAAO ANDERSON SMITH, commenced the publication of a small daily paper called the *Morning Post*, the first number of which was issued January 18, 1847. With this paper Mr. BENNETT remained one year, the proprietorship having, after the first flush of starting had subsided, devolved upon THOMAS A. DEVYR, JOSEPH TAYLOR, and the subject of this sketch. On the 28th of February, 1848, Mr. BENNETT, in company with AARON SMITH, started the *Williamsburgh Daily Times*, at 129 Grand street. Two years thereafter, by the help of a good friend—Mr. GERHAMS POLLEY, since deceased—the partners were enabled to erect a fine brick building at 145 Grand street, which was occupied for a number of years as the printing and publishing office of the paper. In 1854 Williamsburgh was consolidated with Brooklyn, and the name of the paper was conformed to the change. The publication office was removed in 1856 to its present location in Broadway, near the Roosevelt street ferry landing. In the sparse community in which this newspaper had been started, the *Times* and its proprietors played a notable part. Mr. BENNETT was early identified with every project for the improvement of his section, and as these were advocated by his vigorous and intelligent pen, the success of his journal, the popularity of its chief, and the prosperity of the entire section, were alike coincident in growth. Nor has this upward and onward progress been since arrested. The meagre village has grown out into companionship with a giant city; the local newspaper is a journal of municipal distinction, and its first and present proprietor stands high in the counsels and esteem of his fellow citizens. The progress of the paper has been steady from the beginning, and it is now one of the most stable and prosperous daily journals

in the State, ministering, as it does, to a population approximating 150,000.

In politics, Mr. BENNETT was originally a Whig, his first vote being taken by the celebrated MATTHEW L. DAVIS in the seventh ward of New York. When the Republican party was formed, he cheerfully and naturally linked his political fortunes with it, and was one of the most enthusiastic supporters of JOHN C. FREMONT for President in 1856. He was, as already stated, a Member of Assembly in 1872, representing the same district as now. In the same year, not being satisfied with the local political management of his party, and having always been a warm admirer of HORACE GREELEY, he gave to the Liberal cause his warm indorsement. But the failure of that movement, and its subsequent inevitable tendency to coalesce with the Democracy, caused Mr. BENNETT to fall back upon his old principles and associations. He was welcomed back to his party, renominated to the Assembly, and elected by a plurality of 71, his opponents being FREDERICK W. KALBFLEISCH, Democrat, and JOHN N. STEARNS a Republican, who ran as a temperance candidate, because Mr. BENNETT was opposed to local prohibition. STEARNS polled 967 votes, nearly all of which came from the ranks of the Republicans. Mr. BENNETT's popularity where he is best known is sufficiently shown by the fact, that his own ward, ordinarily Democratic, gave him a majority of 275, and in his own election district, out of a poll of 320 votes, he attained a majority of 163. Mr. BENNETT, in the present House, is chairman of the Committee on Public Printing, and member of Canals and Engrossed Bills.

EUGENE D. BERRI.

Mr. BERRI, who was also a member of the Brooklyn delegation in 1872, is a successful carpet dealer in the city of churches. He is a shrewd and energetic business man, and carries the same qualities into politics, and, also, into the Assembly Chamber, where he has proved himself exceedingly efficient in the details of legislation. He was born in Buffalo, N. Y., in the year 1836. His father, WILLIAM BERRI, who is still living and a resident of Brooklyn, where he has an extensive carpet and oil-cloth manufactory, is a native of Manchester, England. All who know him will indorse the statement that he is a man of uncommon energy and ability. EUGENE was educated mainly in Public Schools Three and Eleven of Brooklyn, but to a very great extent he is self-educated, and, possessing as he does a large share of common sense, with sound judgment and plenty of natural ability, he is well qualified for any position in life. Though still young, he has been quite successful in his business ventures, and is now a prominent member of one of the largest carpet establishments in Brooklyn, located at 526 Fulton street.

During the rebellion, he served for a time as First Lieutenant in the 132d Regiment, New York Volunteers, and performed active duty at Suffolk, N. C. At the expiration of four months, however, he was honorably discharged at his own request. In party connection he has always been a Republican. In the fall of 1871, he was elected to the Assembly by a majority of 1,858, THOMAS W. ADAMS being his opponent. Last fall his majority was 2,277, CHALMERS M. BENSON opposing him.

Mr. BERRI occasionally takes part in the debates, especially when his own constituency is involved, and is a pleasant off-hand speaker, though not greatly given to oratory. As

chairman of the Committee on Expenditures of the Executive Department, and member of those on Insurance and Banks, a large amount of work falls to his share, and he does it well. He is a man of genial manners and striking personal appearance, and is extremely popular in the city of Brooklyn. He is a member of the Elm Place Congregational church, and was married to Miss LOUISE BALLOW, in Brooklyn, in 1855.

BERNARD BIGLIN.

There are, perhaps, few readers of newspapers who are unfamiliar with the aquatic exploits of the BIGLIN brothers, the celebrated New York oarsmen, but there are many, doubtless, who will now learn for the first time that one of these brothers, whose name heads this article, is serving his second term as a representative in the State Assembly.

BERNARD BIGLIN was born in the State of Pennsylvania, on the 4th of September, 1841. His parents, JOHN and ELLEN HART BIGLIN, were natives of Ireland, and are both deceased. Their family consisted of eighteen children, of whom ten are now living, six brothers and four sisters. Young BIGLIN was educated in the common schools, and, locating in New York at an early age, he served an apprenticeship as brass moulder with Mr. S. B. H. VANCE, now President of the New York Board of Aldermen, and proprietor of the largest chandelier manufacturing establishment in the country. Completing his apprenticeship in 1860, he soon after obtained a position as Inspector in the New York Custom House, which he held three years. From 1863 until 1867 he was an Inspector in the Internal Revenue Department. Subsequently he was appointed Gauger in the Inter-

nal Revenue Department, but resigned when elected to the Assembly.

Always a Republican, Mr. BIGLIN has occupied a prominent position in New York politics for a number of years, taking an active part in the primaries and conventions of the party. He has served as delegate at all the Republican State Conventions for several years past, and is now in the Assembly as the representative of the eighteenth Assembly District Republican Association. His district, which is usually strongly Democratic, gave, in 1871, a Reform Democratic majority of 4,034. Mr. BIGLIN had three candidates opposed to him in 1872 — PETER SEERY, Tammany, and WM. J. SHIELDS and JOHN P. CROSBY, both Apollo Hall, the last being indorsed by the Committee of Seventy—but he was successful by a plurality of 612, certainly a very gratifying result. Last fall he had two candidates opposed to him, HENRY McCABE, Tammany Democrat, and WM. G. CHOATE, Liberal, and he was elected by a plurality of 556. The confidence reposed in him by his friends is well placed, as he is a very active and industrious member, and watches closely the interests of his constituents.

Had we the requisite data at hand it would be interesting to refer with some particularity to Mr. BIGLIN's career as an oarsman, which has been very brilliant. The crew of which he and his brother JOHN were the organizers and leading spirits, and which included five of the BIGLIN brothers, obtained a wide reputation, and were virtually the champions of the United States during a long period, being victorious in numerous contests on the lakes and rivers in various parts of the country. The BIGLINS are not "sporting men," as the phrase is generally understood, never prostituting their rowing abilities to the object of gambling, as is too often the case. They are imbued with a thorough enthusiasm for the pursuit, and are using their best efforts to spread a love for the manly and vigorous art, with the laudable object of improving and developing the physique of the rising genera-

tion. This is so well understood in New York that their athletic school is patronized by the best and wealthiest citizens of the metropolis, and a large number of amateur oarsmen owe their proficiency to the tuition received from the BIGLINS. Their service is also frequently called in requisition to train and instruct racing crews in other parts of the country.

As may be presumed, Mr. BIGLIN is a man of good physique. He is about the medium height, well and compactly built, light hair and moustache, light blue eyes, and generally a pleasing expression of countenance. He is, withal, a gentleman in every sense of the word. He was married some years ago to MARY ANN GRUNDY. In religious faith he is a Catholic.

ANDREW BLESSING.

ANDREW BLESSING is from the Seventeenth New York district, and is now serving his second term as a member of Assembly. Born in the county of Cavan, Ireland, in the year 1844, he came to this country at the age of thirteen, and obtained a very fair education in the evening common schools of New York city. He learned the trade of boiler maker, and worked at that and kindred mechanical employments for several years, when he obtained a lucrative clerkship in a mercantile house, and finally embarked into the real estate business, in which he is now engaged. As a result of good judgment and sound discretion, he has accumulated a fair competency. In the course of business, Mr. BLESSING has visited nearly every part of the country, and is therefore very thoroughly acquainted with American institutions. He has always retained his residence in New York, however. Possessing decided natural ability, and being a shrewd observer

of men and events, he is, withal, a man of much practical common sense, and a fair representative of the active and energetic Irish-American. His upright and honest course has invariably secured him the respect of all who know him. He is not highly educated, but his mind is well balanced, and unswerving integrity and indomitable perseverance are the leading features of his character.

Mr. BLESSING is not, strictly speaking, a politician, but he has always been known as a decided Democrat of the Tammany school, and has the confidence and esteem, not only of his own party, but of many Republicans in his district. He was elected to the last Assembly by a plurality of 596, three candidates being opposed to him. He served acceptably in that body on the Committees on Grievances and State Prisons. Among the measures which he introduced was the bill to reduce the fare on the Eighth Avenue Railroad. He had to contend against numerous adverse influences and the persistent opposition of the company, but he eventually succeeded, by his personal influence and exertion, in carrying the bill through the Assembly. He made a very honorable record last year, and at all times indicated his readiness to expose and defeat every thing in the nature of jobbery or corruption. In the present Assembly he is a member of the Committee on Claims.

JOSEPH BLUMENTHAL.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL, one of the most prominent of the New York city members, was born in Munich, the capital of Bavaria, December 1, 1834, and came to this country with his parents, LAWRENCE and REBECCA BLUMENTHAL, and their family of six other children, when he was but five years old. Both his parents are dead. He was educated in the com-

mon schools, and in 1853 went to California, residing while there in Mariposa county, celebrated as the locality of the famed Yosemite valley and falls. He remained in California but five years, returning, in 1858, to New York, where he engaged in business as an importer and merchant, with very satisfactory results.

Always a straightforward Democrat, Mr. BLUMENTHAL has never until now held any office, but he has participated actively in the political contests of New York city for many years past, and has secured wide prominence by reason of his efforts in behalf of municipal reform, and for the elevation of honest and capable men to official position. He was one of the earliest and most persistent opponents of the corrupt ring that disgraced and well nigh ruined the Democratic party in the metropolis. He was a member of the Committee of Seventy from its organization to its dissolution, serving on such important sub-committees as Elections, Investigation of Frands, Nominations, etc.

In the winter of 1871-2 he was active in urging the passage of what was known as the Reform Charter, and, during the last session, he was probably the most active opponent of those features of the Charter measure which proposed to abolish the Board of Assistant Aldermen, and curtail the power of the Mayor in making appointments, representing therein the views of the Committee of Seventy. He made several able speeches during the discussion of the measure, and the courtesy, moderation, and entire freedom from personality or acrimony which characterized his participation in the exciting debates, were the subject of complimentary remark among opponents and friends.

In the election in the fall of 1872 he received the indorsement of Tammany Hall, the German Reformers, the Committee of Seventy, and the Council of Municipal Reform, and received a plurality of 1,169, although there were four strong candidates in the field against him. He served on the Committees on Cities and Engrossed Bills. In the

present session he is a member of Ways and Means, and Privileges and Elections.

A man of decided ability and much practical good sense, Mr. BLUMENTHAL is quick to understand the bearings of every question which he is called upon to consider, and therefore possesses qualities invaluable in the legislator. He is also a thorough gentleman in every sense of the word, and his excellent social traits render him popular in a very large circle of acquaintances. He is a member of the Jewish persuasion.

ORVILLE C. BORDWELL.

Mr. BORDWELL is one of the most respected and best known citizens of Niagara county, and capably represents the Second district of that county in the present Assembly. His father, ENOCH W. BORDWELL, still living, and a resident of Hartland, Niagara county, is a native of Yates county. His mother, whose maiden name was MALAH STEBBINS, is of Massachusetts descent. Mr. BORDWELL's grandfather was one of the first settlers of Yates county. He was a carpenter by trade, and it is related of him that on one occasion he traveled on foot through the wilderness to Niagara Falls, where he helped to erect the first building put up in the place.

The subject of this notice was born in the town of Potter, Yates county, on the 13th of June, 1832. He received a good education in the common schools during his youth, and conceiving a liking for the medical profession, he attended the Eclectic Medical Institute, in Cincinnati, in 1859 and 1860. He practiced with very good success from that time until 1867, but since then he has been engaged in farming and fruit-growing, occupations which are congenial to his rural tastes, and from which he has reaped an ample pecuniary reward.

Mr. BORDWELL has been twice married. His first wife, to whom he was united in Royaltown, on the 25th of March, 1857, was SARAH J. DAY, an estimable lady. She died in April, 1861, and in July, 1862, he married EMMA A. ELDERKIN, at Lockport.

In politics Mr. BORDWELL has always been a Republican. He has occasionally filled public position, and has generally been quite active in the counsels of his party, but he has never been a seeker after office. In the year 1869 he was Overseer of the Poor of his town. The next year he was a candidate for the office of Supervisor, but was defeated by four votes, owing to the fact that the Democratic board of canvassers threw out five of his votes, because his name was misspelled. At the present time he holds the office of Assessor, to which he was elected by a majority of 82, the Democratic Supervisor receiving a majority of 84. He was elected to the Assembly by a majority of 445 over ELTON T. RANSOM, Democrat, and serves his constituents faithfully and conscientiously as a member of the Committees on Roads and Bridges and Agriculture.

Mr. BORDWELL, though brought up in the Free Will Baptist persuasion, has never made a profession of religion. He is a man of enlarged views upon all questions.

WILLIAM L. BOSTWICK.

Though Mr. BOSTWICK is making his first essay as a State legislator, he has already taken position as a man of commanding talent, having demonstrated his ability as a floor member in several sharp contests. He is an easy and fluent speaker, apparently well posted upon all subjects, gives close attention to the business of the House, and possesses that discriminating tact and judicial acumen popularly supposed to be peculiarly characteristic of those trained to the legal

profession. Indeed it seems little short of an anomaly that he is not a regularly qualified member of the bar, as he seems peculiarly fitted for that walk of life. During the session he has distinguished himself by the interest he has taken in educational matters, and especially by his championship of the compulsory education bill.

He was born at Enfield, N. Y., March 15, 1837, and is the son of ORSON BOSTWICK, a native of New Milford, Conn., who settled in Enfield in 1822, engaging in farming and lumbering. The latter removed to Ithaca in 1867, and died there a year later.

Young BOSTWICK pursued his preparatory studies at Ithaca academy, and entered Hamilton college in 1854, graduating four years later with full honors. He then spent four years at farming, marrying, in 1861, FANNIE A. SKIDMORE, of Flint, Michigan. He removed from Enfield to Ithaca in 1863, and engaged in boat-building, and also in the grain and lumber business. These pursuits he relinquished, however, at the expiration of two years, and in 1865 purchased a one-half interest in the Phœnix Iron Works, giving his personal attention to the management of the concern. One of the leading manufactures of the company was the "Ithaca Wheel Horse Rake," of which he was the patentee. This implement has obtained great popularity among farmers, from three to four thousand being manufactured annually. In 1872 he retired from that business, and is now engaged in the lumber and plaster trade, being also largely interested in a planing mill, and a sash, door and blind factory. He has been uniformly successful in his business ventures, and has established a reputation for shrewd and careful management and sterling integrity.

Mr. BOSTWICK is known in Tompkins county as an earnest, thorough going Republican. As a member of the Board of Supervisors, first from Enfield in 1860 and 1861, and lastly from Ithaca in 1867, when he was made Chairman of the Board, he has always watched with a sharp eye the true

interests of his constituents, and shown himself to be a man of sound judgment and marked ability. That he will display the same characteristics in a wider field is already apparent. He was a delegate from the 27th Congressional District to the Philadelphia Republican Convention which nominated U. S. GRANT in 1872.

He was elected to the Assembly by a plurality of 274, two candidates being opposed to him, CHAS. W. BATES, Democrat, and WILLIAM HANFORD, Temperance. That he was successful with such odds against him is an indication of his popularity at home. He is Chairman of the Education Committee, and member of Public Printing, and Sub-Committee of the Whole.

In religious belief he is an Episcopalian.

WATERS W. BRAMAN.

The present House contains very few more careful or conscientious members than WATERS W. BRAMAN, of West Troy, Albany county. Though he is entirely new to legislative duties, he has elicited the praise of veterans at the capitol, by the aptitude he has shown in mastering the details of his position. Always at his post in the House and in the committee room, he watches the progress of legislation with keen attention, and often discovers defects in matters under consideration which escape the scrutiny of older members. Especially do the interests of his immediate constituency, which is an unusually large one, receive his unremitting attention, as is evidenced by the fact that an unusual number of measures for the welfare of West Troy and Cohoes have been initiated during the present session. Maj. BRAMAN is not what may be termed a trained orator, but he is not by any means a silent member, being able to express his views pointedly and briefly when occasion requires. He is a man

of rather commanding appearance, with a pleasant face and genial manner, and is in every respect an honor to the district which he represents.

WATERS WHIPPLE BRAMAN was born in Troy, N. Y., on the 20th of April, 1840. His parents, both of whom are dead, were HORACE and CAROLINE E. BRAMAN, the maiden name of the latter being WHIPPLE. His mother died when he was but five years of age, giving him away on her death bed to her brother, WATERS W. WHIPPLE, of Troy, who had been a father to her. Mr. WHIPPLE faithfully performed the trust reposed in him, and cared for young BRAMAN as well as if he had been an own son, looking after his education and welfare until his marriage, which took place in 1865, after his return from the army. Maj. BRAMAN's preliminary education was obtained in a common school, and from thence he went to the Troy High School, being one of the first scholars admitted into that institution. Having obtained an excellent English education, he left school at the age of seventeen to learn the lumber business, which he mastered in all its branches, and has continued to follow up to the present time. In the year 1860 he became a member of the firm of BELKNAP & BRAMAN, lumber dealers. The war, which broke out soon after, aroused his patriotism, however, and in the following year he sold out his business interest in order to enter the army. While closing up his business in the fall of 1861, he was a member of the Albany Board for the examination of volunteer officers. In the mean time he was engaged in enlisting men, and, on the 7th of December, 1861, was mustered into the United States service, and commissioned First Lieutenant of company C, 93d Regiment N. Y. Vols., on the 15th of January, 1862. Soon thereafter, he proceeded with his command to the front, and it was his fortune to participate, in a greater or less degree, in all the battles fought by the Army of the Potomac. During his long and arduous service he was never an inmate of a hospital. He was repeatedly struck by rebel bullets,

but was never wounded severely enough to incapacitate him from duty. In the Wilderness battles of May 5, 6 and 7, 1864, he was hit no less than five times. On the 23d of March, 1864, he was promoted Captain of H company in the same regiment, and was mustered out, February 14, 1865, by reason of expiration of term of service. On the 17th of October, 1866, he was breveted Major for gallant and meritorious service, his muster out rank being that of Captain. Thus is briefly outlined the main facts in a military career which was in every respect honorable and praiseworthy. He was a brave and faithful officer, his sole ambition being to perform his duty to his imperiled country.

On laying aside the sword, at the close of the struggle in which he had taken such an active part, Major BRAMAN immediately resumed his old business pursuit. In the October following his retirement from the army he was married to MARGARET J. GETTY, at West Troy, and about the same time became a member of the lumber firm of WATERS W. WHIPPLE & Co., in which he is still an active partner. Aside from this, however, he at present carries on a manufacturing enterprise in Clinton county.

Mr. BRAMAN's political history is briefly told. He cast his first vote, by proxy, in front of Petersburg, Va., and it was cast for the re-election of ABRAHAM LINCOLN. Since then he has been an active Republican. He is now a Trustee of the village of West Troy, but other than that and his present legislative position, he has never held any elective office. He is, however, an earnest worker in the Republican ranks on all occasions, and is a man of considerable influence in the party councils. In the recent Assembly canvass he had two Democratic opponents, DANIEL McELWAIN and PETER D. NIVER, whose combined vote was 4,422. Maj. BRAMAN's plurality was 30, the district being usually strongly Democratic. He is a member of the Committees on Cities, Public Printing and Expenditures of the Executive Department.

FRANCIS B. BREWER.

Mr. BREWER is a descendant of revolutionary stock, his grandfather having held the rank of colonel in the struggle with the mother country. His father, EBENEZER BREWER, who died some years since, was also familiar with the trying scenes of that period, and held a captain's commission in the war of 1812. They were both, we believe, natives of New Hampshire. Mr. BREWER was himself born in Keene, N. H., and is now a robust and well-preserved gentleman of perhaps fifty years of age. He enjoyed, when young, the advantages of a liberal education, and early determined to enter the medical profession. He therefore pursued with diligence the general and scientific courses at Dartmouth College, from whence he graduated in 1843. Two years later he graduated with honor from the medical department of the same institution. He practiced his profession but five years, however, when he entered the lumbering business at Oil creek in Pennsylvania. This was about the year 1850, when the oleaginous treasures of that region were practically unknown to the world. Mr. BREWER perceived the value of the deposits before they attracted general attention, and, it is an interesting fact, that, in his clear and practical brain, was formed the first feasible plan to secure and utilize the petroleum oozing through the soil. As early as 1853, he, with several other gentlemen of energy and means, formed the first oil company, and inaugurated a branch of commerce which has since reached gigantic proportions, and added immensely to the wealth of the country.

Mr. BREWER was reasonably successful in his ventures in the oil region, and finally removed to Westfield, in Chautauqua county, where he has since resided, having become a wealthy and substantial citizen of that thriving village. He devotes his attention mainly to supervising the affairs of the

Westfield Lock Works, of which he is the sole proprietor. He is also President of the First National Bank of Westfield, a flourishing institution. A short time since he was appointed by the President one of the Government Directors of the Union Pacific Railroad.

He has frequently been the recipient of political honors from his fellow citizens, with whom he is held in very high regard. Several times he has been elected to the Board of Supervisors, and once or twice he was Chairman of the Board. Mr. B. always discharged his duties satisfactorily in this local legislative body, acting on all questions for the best interests of the county and the town he represented. During the war he rendered important service as special State Agent to the hospitals, and also to the soldiers in camp. This office he held, with rank of Major, by appointment of Governor FENTON, and from the time of his appointment, in the winter of 1864, until the close of the war, he was instrumental in relieving an immense amount of suffering among the brave men who composed the Army of the Potomac.

Mr. BREWER was a Whig until the formation of the Republican party, since which time he has always been actively identified with Republican measures and men. In person, he is somewhat portly, and rather above the medium height. His flowing light brown beard, in which a few white hairs are sprinkled, gives him a slightly venerable appearance, which is contradicted, however, by the vigorous frame, elastic step, and florid, healthy complexion which characterize him. Dignified and courteous in bearing, a man of well-balanced intellect and unusually ripe judgment, he is in the full prime of intellectual and physical manhood, and is in all respects an able and upright legislator.

He was a member last year, and as member of the Ways and Means Committee he was exceedingly influential in reducing expenditures to the lowest limit. His voice was also frequently heard on the floor in behalf of economical and prudent legislation, and he was regarded by all as a

safe counsellor in matters pertaining to the public interests. In the present session he is retained on the Ways and Means, and is also Chairman of Petitions of Aliens, and member of Charitable and Religious Societies.

ARTHUR F. BROWN.

The Second district of Oneida is represented, this year, by ARTHUR F. BROWN, one of the energetic and substantial business men of that locality. He is a quiet member, taking little part in the discussions which consume so much of the time of the House, but there are very few more constant in their attendance on committee meetings, or more closely observant of the business of legislation.

ARTHUR FITCH BROWN was born in Westmoreland, Oneida county, where he still resides, June 29, 1817. He received a fair education in the common schools, and, on reaching manhood, chose a mercantile career. He engaged in business in Westmoreland, which he continued, successfully, for upward of twenty-four years, retiring in April, 1873. Mr. BROWN's career has been somewhat uneventful, and we have therefore little to say of him, save that he is a plain, straightforward man of action, a man who regards deeds rather than professions, and who endeavors, in the Legislature, to reflect honor upon the constituency which has honored him. Previous to the organization of the Republican party, Mr. BROWN was a Democrat, but since that event he has never faltered in his adherence to Republican ideas and principles. He was elected to the Assembly, after a hotly contested canvass, by a majority of 17 over GEORGE W. CLEVELAND, the Democratic candidate. The fact that his vote fell short some 400 from the usual Republican poll, was due to the influence of the hop interest, which was cast on the side of CLEVELAND. Mr. BROWN is on the Committees on Claims, Roads and Bridges, and Indian Affairs.

J. LYMAN BULKLEY.

JUSTUS LYMAN BULKLEY, for sixteen years a successful physician and surgeon of Sandy Creek, Oswego county, was born in Fairfield, Herkimer county, August 20, 1832. His father, PETER H. BULKLEY, born in the year 1800, and a native of this State, died when young BULKLEY was but eleven years old, leaving his son little besides an inheritance of poverty. Compelled thus early to fight his way in the world, he did not shrink from the contest, but proceeded, under the counsel of his worthy mother, who is still living, to secure an education. Although for a number of years he was compelled to work in the capacity of a farm laborer, he eventually succeeded in his object. He studied the English branches in an academy, and when he was able to do so, entered college. He passed through Madison University, graduating in 1857, with an honorary degree, and afterward graduated with all the honors from the New York Ophthalmic Hospital College. He immediately entered upon the practice of his chosen profession, and has pursued it with such success that he now enjoys a reputation second to none in the county. It will be seen, therefore, that Dr. BULKLEY is, in the fullest sense, a self-made man, and owes all that he has and is to his own individual exertions.

Dr. BULKLEY has always been an earnest Republican, and has found time to devote considerable attention to party politics, in which, in his county, he is a leading spirit. Besides holding the office of Coroner during one term, and being an incumbent of the post of Pension Surgeon for three years past, he has held a number of minor offices, and is always active at local conventions and primaries. He was elected to the Assembly in 1872, by a majority of about 1,700, defeating GILBERT W. HARDING, his Democratic opponent. In the recent canvass he was opposed by HUGH

D. MELLE, his majority being 861. He served last year on the Committees on Education and Public Lands, and this year he is chairman of Public Health and Member of Public Education and Joint Library.

Dr. BULKLEY is a gentleman of genial manners and marked ability. Though not known to a very great extent as a talkative member, he is capable and efficient, and has made an excellent record.

LEONARD BURRITT.

Mr. BURRITT, who represents the Third district of Monroe county, is one of the "always reliable" Republicans of the lower House. He makes few speeches, but invariably votes "right," is invaluable in the committee room, and has a sharp eye for the wishes of his constituents. He was once a Whig, but since Whigism became a thing of the past he has been a steadfast Republican. He was born in Chili, Monroe county, his father being ISAAC BURRITT, now deceased. Brought up on a farm, and receiving in the mean time a pretty thorough common school and academic education, he has remained a farmer until the present time, but manages also to attend to other pursuits. From 1862 until 1870 he filled the position of United States Assistant Assessor for Monroe county. In the fall of 1867 Mr. BURRITT was elected to the Assembly by a majority of 890.

In 1872 his majority was 985, and last fall he was returned by a majority of 482, his opponent being JOHN BORST, Democrat. Last year he was Chairman of the Committee on Banks, and member of Charitable and Religious Societies and Insurance. This year he is again Chairman of Banks and member of Salt and Aliens.

MICHAEL COFFEY.

Mr. COFFEY, from the Third district of Kings county, is a young man of energy and ability, who wields considerable influence in Brooklyn politics, especially in the ward in which he resides. He was born in Ireland in 1843, and received a good education in the common schools. From 1861 to 1864 he was in the naval service of the United States, and during a portion of the time since his discharge has been a liquor dealer in Brooklyn. He served continuously in the Brooklyn Board of Aldermen, from 1868 to 1872, being elected each year against five opponents. He was nominated by the Democrats in the recent canvass, and chosen to the Assembly by a unanimous vote, which is certainly the strongest evidence of popularity that could be afforded. He serves on the Committees on Claims and Public Health. Mr. COFFEY possesses many of those qualities which win popular regard, and evidently has a successful political future before him. In religious faith he is a Roman Catholic.

HENRY W. CARPENTER.

HENRY W. CARPENTER, M. D., Member of Assembly from the Second district of Madison county, was born in Marcy, Oneida county, N. Y., June 26, 1834. His father was a farmer in limited circumstances, and unable to give his children more than common school opportunities, so that the subject of this sketch labored under great embarrassments in obtaining an education. After 10 years of age he worked upon the farm summers and attended district school winters until he arrived at the age of 17, when he commenced teach-

ing. This he did for three years, remaining with his parents during the summer season. For two seasons, and prior to commencing his school, he attended a half term at Rome Academy, where he acted as monitor, thus defraying part of his tuition. At the age of 19, while teaching one of the public schools in the then village of Rome, he commenced the study of medicine with the late Dr. J. M. STURDEVANT, with the intention of remaining in his office the following summer, but in this he was disappointed, on account of the sudden death of his father, who, from financial misfortunes, left a small farm heavily mortgaged. He then remained with his mother, who was an invalid, for upward of three years, and assisted her in removing all indebtedness against the small estate. During this time he devoted all his leisure moments, and more especially the long winter evenings, to the study of his chosen profession. In this way he prepared himself so that he entered the Medical Department of the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor, in the fall of 1856, where he remained till the following spring. During the summer he studied medicine in the office of Dr. D. A. CRANE, of Holland Patent, N. Y., doing chores for his board and washing. The following winter he attended lectures at the University of New York, and a spring course at Albany. Returning to New York, he graduated at the University in July, 1858. After receiving his diploma, he formed a partnership with Dr. CRANE, of Holland Patent, where he remained in active practice for four years. While at this place he received a commission as Assistant Surgeon of the 117th New York Volunteers, and entered the army in August, 1862. He quickly gained the entire confidence of the regiment, and was soon promoted to Surgeon by Gov. SEYMOUR, through the earnest solicitation of every officer in the regiment. We briefly give a portion of the petition to the Governor by the officers: •

“We are led thus to petition Your Excellency out of regard to the best interests of our regiment, that the position

of surgeon may be filled by the appointment of a competent officer. We know — many of us by experience, and all by observation — that Dr. CARPENTER well merits this promotion. We know, and can recommend to Your Excellency, the eminent skill he has thus far displayed — his untiring energy in attending to the wants and comforts of the sick and wounded, and we but express to you our conviction in saying that he well deserves, and has our entire confidence and esteem. And we believe in promoting Dr. CARPENTER, Your Excellency will reward an officer accomplished in his profession and devoted to the duties of his office."

He held the position of Surgeon till November, 1864, when he was obliged to resign, on account of ill health, and returned to his home at Holland Patent. While in the army in the Department of the South, he was acting Brigade Surgeon; also President of a Medical Examining Board for recruits and discharging disabled soldiers. He also had, while in the field, a standing order as Operating Surgeon, from the Medical Director of the Corps.

The following spring he removed to Oneida, in Madison county, where he established himself in an active practice, and still resides, ranking among the foremost physicians and surgeons in that section of the State. He has been Vice-President and President of the County Medical Society, and an address delivered by him before that body, the subject of which was "A few Facts and Hints for the People," was highly commended, and was published in the county papers. He holds the position of Examining Surgeon to the Commission of Pensions, at Washington — an appointment he has held for several years. He is also serving his second term as one of the Coroners of the county.

In his boyhood he learned to abhor slavery and oppression of every kind, receiving the lessons from his father, who was an abolitionist and a stockholder in the old "underground railroad," and, in quite a number of instances, a conductor on the same. He has been a member of the Republican party since its organization. In the fall of 1873 he received

the nomination for Member of Assembly, without solicitation on his part, and was elected by a majority of 404 votes, although there was a very light vote cast—scarcely two-thirds of the usual vote. He ran largely ahead of his ticket in twelve election districts, carrying his own town, which is Democratic, by 124 majority. The preceding fall, when the Presidential election was held and a full vote cast, the Republicans elected their member, after a severe struggle, by only seven majority.

One of the county papers, in noticing his nomination, said:

“Dr. CARPENTER is a physician of large practice and wide reputation; a gentleman of unexceptionable personal character; a Republican firm in the faith, but not allied to any ring or section; in short, a man who, in the fullest sense, meets the demands of the present hour for integrity, ability and sound judgment, and will carry into the Assembly Chamber such traits of character and ability as will give him a front rank in that body, where its interests will be thoroughly appreciated by him, and honorably attended to.”

WILLIAM CAULDWELL.

Representing a district which may almost be regarded as metropolitan, part of it, indeed, having already been incorporated within the municipal limits of New York city, and a district which, with its growing interests, calls annually for a vast amount of legislation, Mr. CAULDWELL's position in the House is any thing but a sinecure. It is certain, however, that the important matters committed to his care could be intrusted in no better hands. The confidence felt in his judgment and ability is the result of a long career of usefulness, and it may safely be asserted that there are few men who have done more for Westchester county than Assemblyman and ex-Senator WILLIAM CAULDWELL.

He was born in New York city, October 12, 1824, and is therefore nearly fifty years of age. His father was a native of Scotland, and his mother, like himself, was born in New York city. Like so many men who have carved out a reputation and secured a competence by personal industry and indomitable will, Mr. CAULDWELL had only the benefits of a common school education, and at the age of fifteen he commenced to earn his own living. At that age he began to learn the trade of a printer; and this, probably, as much as any thing else, was the basis of his future success. He is now one of the editors and publishers of the New York *Mercury* and *Sunday Mercury*, which, in its several editions, is probably one of the most widely circulated newspapers in the country.

One of the earliest residents of the village of Morrisania, which, however, is now unromantically known as the Twenty-fourth ward of New York, and in which his father erected the first dwelling, Mr. CAULDWELL has aided in making it one of the most prosperous communities in the State, it forming virtually a city of 25,000 or 30,000 inhabitants, with an assessed valuation of several millions, and raising annually about \$250,000 by taxes.

For fifteen consecutive terms Mr. CAULDWELL was Supervisor of Morrisania, chosen often without opposition, and always by a large majority. He was elected first in 1857. During four years of that period he was President of the Town Board of Trustees—a position with responsibilities equal to that of Mayor of a city—and during three years Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Westchester county, in which he always held a leading position. He also served nine or ten years as member of the Board of Education. In short, his name is connected with almost every thing pertaining to the growth, prosperity and improvement of his section of Westchester county, and it is not at all strange that he enjoys in an eminent degree the confidence of the people. He was, up to the close of 1873, when the Act of

Annexation took effect, the President of the Board of Trustees, and also Supervisor of the town of Morrisania, and by a special provision of the act in question, the settlement of the finances and general winding up of the business of the town incident to annexation to New York devolves upon him until July of the present year. An important portion of Mr. CAULDWELL'S career was that spent in the State Senate, to which he was elected in 1867, and which position he accepted mainly with a view to promoting rapid transit in New York city. He was chosen by the largest majority ever given in the district (the Ninth), his then opponent being the present Speaker of the House, Hon. JAMES W. HUSTED, and served during two terms, or four years, with marked distinction. His services as Senator are notable by the fact that the first bill for rapid transit, the New York Central Underground Railroad measure, became a law through his efforts. He also secured the passage of the act providing for the abatement of interest from the State in favor of Westchester county, amounting to about \$45,000. This bill was fought inch by inch through two successive sessions by the late Senator JACOB HARDENBURGH. He was elected to the Senate the second time by a majority of 2,274, and was one of the most industrious members of the committees on State Prisons, Roads and Bridges, Villages, and Public Printing, being Chairman of the two former. Mr. CAULDWELL was unanimously renominated for a third term for Senator in 1871, but the overwhelming vote against the Democracy in that year defeated him, his successful opponent being the present President of the Senate, WILLIAM H. ROBERTSON.

Mr. CAULDWELL is and always has been a Democrat, but at the solicitation of leading men in both parties he consented to serve in the Assembly this year, a man of experience, and fully conversant with the people's wants, being needed at Albany to protect the interests growing out of their new relations to the metropolis. That Mr. CAULDWELL will acquit himself well of the trust, no one will doubt, not-

withstanding he was confined to his house for nearly six weeks of the present session by serious illness. He received 1,412 majority over his opponent, THOMAS WILSON, and ran 267 votes ahead of the Democratic candidate for Secretary of State, in a district which has elected a Republican member three times in succession. In the House he is on the committees on Claims, Banks, and State Prisons, and no member is more highly esteemed and respected by his associates.

GEORGE W. CHADWICK.

MR. CHADWICK, the Member from the First district of Oneida county, is a pleasant-faced gentleman of nearly fifty years of age. He is a man who has not much to say in the way of debate, but he is constant in attendance at the sessions of the House, and active, energetic and efficient in the performance of the real work of legislation. His character—that of an earnest, practical, thoroughgoing business man—is plainly indicated in his countenance, which is a mirror of truthfulness as well as of kindness and geniality. He was born in Oneida county, June 16, 1825, and is the son of English and American parents, his father, JOHN CHADWICK (now deceased), having been an extensive manufacturer in New Hartford, where the son still resides. During his youth MR. CHADWICK was enabled to secure a good common school and academic education. When he had reached a proper age his father took him into his cotton factory as an ordinary operative, and, when he had become thoroughly familiar with the business, took him into partnership, and at his death surrendered the entire property to his care. In this business MR. C. still continues, and is now the sole proprietor of one of the largest manufacturing estab-

lishments in that section. He was married, on the 5th of November, 1855, to MARY A. WRIGLEY, of New Hartford.

As a manufacturer he has been very successful, and since he has been proprietor of the works established by his father he has made extensive additions thereto. His standing in the community, financially and otherwise, is first class. Aside from his legitimate business, he has frequently been identified with other enterprises, and he is now director of a railroad, and also of a banking institution. His kindliness of disposition has greatly endeared his workmen to him, and he has always merited their regard by doing every thing in his power to promote their comfort and welfare.

Politically, Mr. Chadwick has always been either a Whig or Republican. Since the Republican party was formed he has been unswerving in his allegiance thereto. He has always taken a warm interest in the local politics of his district, and has several times been honored with important public trusts. During three of the war years he was a member of the board of supervisors, in which position he rendered great service in filling the several quotas in response to the demand for men. He was also a Member of Assembly in 1871, and his vote was always recorded in opposition to the infamous purchased legislation of that session. In that House, to which he was elected by a majority of about 600, he was a member of the Committees on Indian Affairs and Trade and Manufactures. His majority over HENRY D. TALCOTT, his Democratic opponent last fall, was 694, while the Republican majority the previous year was only 135. He is now a member of the Committees on Railroads and Agriculture, and Chairman of Civil Divisions.

HENRY M. CLARK.

The Second district of Wayne county is represented by HENRY M. CLARK, of East Palmyra, where he was born, March 6, 1826, and has always resided in the vicinity of his birth-place. On the 3d of April, 1850, he was married to FRANCES A. FOSTER, a native of the same locality. His father, MALTBY CLARK, was born in East Palmyra, March 31, 1798, was a Whig candidate for Assembly in 1843, and was elected Superintendent of the Poor by that party in 1847 and 1850, and by the Republicans in 1855. He is still living. His grandfather, OLIVER CLARK, was one of the first settlers of the town of Palmyra, having emigrated from Southampton, Long Island, in 1794. He died in January, 1843, at the age of seventy-six.

MR. CLARK received his education at the district schools and at Walworth Academy. By occupation he is a farmer, and for several years he has been a Director of the Palmyra Union Agricultural Society.

In political life he was a Whig until the organization of the Republican party, with which he has ever since acted. At different times he has been nominated for Supervisor, Justice, Assessor, etc., but as his party was defeated on these occasions, he failed of an election. In obedience to the urgent request of a large number of Republicans of the district, he accepted an independent nomination for Assembly, at the late election, and was chosen over the regular Republican candidate, Col. JOSEPH W. CORNING, by the following vote: CLARK, 1921; CORNING, 1590. The vote in the East Palmyra election district was, CLARK, 142; CORNING, 7.

MR. CLARK generally acts with the majority in the House, is a sound and reliable legislator, and is making an excellent record during the present session.

In religious belief, he is a Presbyterian, and for the last three years has been stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Lyons.

He serves on the Committees on Public Education, and Expenditures of the House.

WILLIAM V. CLEARY.

Mr. CLEARY, a young and active Democrat, represents, for the second term, the city of Troy, where he has resided all his life, and for several years past has been identified with its business interests. Born in Troy on the 12th of September, 1847, he is still quite a young man, but he takes naturally to political life, and occupies quite a prominent position in the local councils of his party. His father, KYRAN CLEARY, who died in 1861, at the age of 45, was also active in politics and was once a member of the Board of Aldermen. The younger CLEARY received a good education in the common schools, and was brought up in the business followed by his father, the manufacture of ale and porter, and, on his father's death, he took sole charge of his large establishment, conducting it with success up to the present time.

Mr. CLEARY has already held a number of positions in the gift of his party. During two terms he occupied a seat in the Troy Board of Aldermen, and was chosen unanimously at his last election. In 1870 he was President of the Board of Common Council, and filled the position satisfactorily to the people, and with credit to himself. Two years ago he was Chairman of the Democratic Central Committee. He was elected to the last Assembly by a majority of 1,485, over DENNIS O'LOUGHLIN, an independent candidate, and served in that body on the Committees on Trade and Manufactures and Federal Relations. In the present House, to which he was elected by a majority of 881, over ROBERT B. RANKIN, a

popular Republican, he serves on the Committees on Trade and Manufactures and Indian Affairs. He is not particularly distinguished as a public speaker, but he watches closely the interests of his constituents. Young, vigorous, intelligent and capable, Mr. CLEARY evidently has a bright future before him. He is still unmarried, and is a member of the Roman Catholic Church.

STEPHEN J. COLAHAN.

Physically Mr. COLAHAN is a splendid specimen of manhood, with massive, well-proportioned frame, large head, well set off by coal-black hair and moustache, and fine features. His complexion has that pale cast which inevitably marks the diligent student, but there is not enough of pallor to indicate the broken constitution which is the lot of so many who burn the midnight oil in the struggle to become famous. A pleasant geniality also beams in his features, and it is evident that he shines as brilliantly in the social circle as he does in the political and legal arena.

Mr. COLAHAN was born in New York city December 25, 1841, his parents being J. H. and MARY COLAHAN, both deceased. He received a thorough collegiate education, partly at Fordham, and partly at the New York University, graduating from the Law Department of the University in the class of 1862. After his graduation he was married, and indulged in a tour to Europe, the results of his observations being published in a series of brilliant letters to leading newspapers. In 1863 and 1864, he held an official position in the War Department at Washington, and since then, with the exception of the time occupied in public service, he has practiced law, being associated for four years with General PHILIP S. CROOK, who afterward defeated him in a contest

for a seat in Congress. In 1867 he was elected a member of the Constitutional Convention of this State, being the youngest member in that body. During the sessions of the Convention, Mr. COLAHAN took a prominent part in several of the leading debates. The clause to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquors was ably resisted by Mr. COLAHAN, and his speech was regarded as being so effective that it was re-published in pamphlet shape. He made an effort to have a clause inserted in the State Constitution relative to the practice of medicine and the dispensing of drugs, to direct the Legislature to create a State Board, to be appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate, for the purpose of inquiry into the qualifications of this class. The matter was afterward left to the Legislature. This movement on the part of Mr. COLAHAN excited great public interest. The State Medical Board in Convention unanimously adopted a series of complimentary resolutions on his action in the matter, and tendered him a banquet. The late Mr. H. J. RAYMOND, of the *New York Times*, warmly supported his action, and many other journals also indorsed its value.

Mr. COLAHAN has frequently been a delegate to the conventions of his party. He was a member of the Convention at Rochester which nominated the present Judges of the Court of Appeals, and was also a delegate to the Democratic National Convention at Baltimore in 1872, and to the State Convention at Syracuse in the same year. His efforts at that convention to have the State Central Committee increased to thirty-five members, in order to give the people a more direct representation, were crowned with success. In 1872 he was a candidate for Congress in the Fourth District, but was beaten by a small majority by Gen. CROOK, his Republican opponent. At present he is Chief Clerk of the City Court of Brooklyn, having been appointed in 1871.

He was elected to the Assembly last fall after a very active canvass, a Democrat and the Republican representative last year being in the field against him. The vote in the Demo-

cratic Assembly Convention was a tie, and, the matter being referred to the General Committee, Mr. COLAHAN was nominated. His opponent, PATRICK J. GLEASON, remained in the field as an independent candidate. Mr. COLAHAN obtained 389 majority over COCHEU, the Republican candidate, and 40 majority over both COCHEU and GLEASON. As this result was attained in a district which the Republicans have carried several times, against a single Democrat, it is something to Mr. COLAHAN's credit. After the result was known his friends tendered him the compliment of a serenade, which was in every way a pleasant affair.

Mr. COLAHAN has taken rank as one of the most polished and forcible orators in the present House, and when he rises to speak he never fails to command attention. As a minority member he is well taken care of on the Committees, being on Judiciary, and Privileges and Elections.

ARTEMAS W. COMSTOCK.

Niagara county is this year represented by new men in both districts. Mr. COMSTOCK, of the First District, is a substantial farmer and extensive dairyman, residing near Lockport. He is a gentleman of high character and pure motives, and, in short, precisely such a man as an intelligent New York constituency should send to the Legislature. He was born in the town of Cambria on the 15th of December, 1827. His father, THOMAS COMSTOCK, was a Rhode Island farmer, in comfortable circumstances, who, soon after his marriage to TRYPHENA CARPENTER, of Pennsylvania, settled in Niagara county and purchased of the Holland Land Company the farm in Cambria which the son now occupies. He died in 1864. Young COMSTOCK enjoyed ample educational opportunities during his youth, attending the com-

mon schools, and also the academy at Yates Center, Orleans county. On completing his education he wisely chose his father's pursuit, and, succeeding to the paternal estate, he now owns a fine farm of 370 acres, lying adjacent to the New York Central Railroad, about four miles from Lockport.

Mr. COMSTOCK has always felt a warm interest in the political movements of the day, giving to his party earnest counsel and active co-operation. He commenced his political life as a Whig, and when the Republican party came into existence he promptly identified himself with it, and was, in fact, one of its active organizers. In 1863 he was elected a member of the Niagara county Board of Supervisors, serving, except during an interval of one year, until 1868. He was thus a member of the Board during two of the war years. He felt strongly in reference to the issues which divided the country during those memorable years, but not being in a position to go to the front himself, he sent a substitute who served during the war.

Mr. COMSTOCK was nominated by the District Convention last fall with gratifying unanimity. His life-long residence in the county, his spotless character, and his sterling qualities of mind and heart, rendered him in all respects a fitting candidate for a constituency which habitually sends to the Assembly men much above the average. He was elected by a majority of 686 over IRA FARNSWORTH, a prominent and able Democrat, his vote being some 385 in excess of that received by the Republican State ticket. He is a member of the Committees on Banks and Manufacture of Salt.

Mr. COMSTOCK was married on the 10th of March, 1857, to Miss EVELINE FORSYTH, of Lockport, and is a member of the Congregational Church of Cambria.

JOHN D. COUGHLIN.

JOHN D. COUGHLIN was born, February 4, 1844, in New York city, in Fifth avenue and Fiftieth street, on the identical spot where is now being erected the grand Roman Catholic Cathedral, which is destined to be one of the most magnificent church structures on this half of the globe. Although not quite thirty years ago, Fifth avenue, now the wonder of this country for palatial residences, was then but a country wagon road at Fiftieth street; and Mr. COUGHLIN's father ran his plow through ground that has since been divided into building lots, and sold for \$100,000 each.

Mr. COUGHLIN is a graduate of the public schools of New York city. He is a journalist by profession, and when twenty-five years of age established the *New York School Journal*, the first and only educational paper published weekly in this country. During the war he was so earnest in his opposition to slavery, and so eager for the preservation of the Union, that he was classed as a Republican in politics, but he never dropped the name of Democrat, and, at the close of the war, commenced to take an active part in Democratic politics. During the reform revolution which swept over the city of New York in 1869 and 1870, he wrote for the *New York Tribune*, under a *nom de plume*, a series of scathing satirical poems which attracted considerable attention, and brought him prominently before the public as a political writer. He is a Roman Catholic, and married Miss HELEN C. BUSHNELL, daughter of WILLIAM BUSHNELL, well known throughout this State for his connection with the iron interests, and for owning, at different times, several of the most successful furnaces in New York and elsewhere.

Mr. COUGHLIN represents in the Assembly the district in which he was born, the Twentieth, and has seen it grow from a country village, embracing less than two hundred voters,

into a magnificent city of palatial residences, grand public edifices, beautiful drives and parks, with a voting population of upward of 12,000.

He was a candidate for the Assembly in 1872, but was defeated, the Republican candidate receiving a plurality of 1,059. In the late canvass he was opposed by two candidates, DAVID BABCOCK, Republican, and MORITZ HERTZBERG, Apollo Hall. Mr. COUGHLIN's plurality was 423.

Mr. COUGHLIN has succeeded in making a very favorable impression in the Assembly. He is a fine speaker, attentive to the duties of legislation, courteous and genial in his intercourse with others, and consequently popular. He is a member of the Committee on Cities.

JAMES DALY.

Mr. DALY represents the Fourteenth district of New York city, and ranks as one of the ablest members of the metropolitan delegation. He is a native of Ireland, where he was born about the year 1843. His parents, still living, belong to the agricultural class in the old country. He received an excellent collegiate education, and was, at first, intended for holy orders, but though he is a consistent Roman Catholic his mind took another bent, and since the completion of his studies he has been engaged in mercantile pursuits. He did not identify himself very prominently with politics until the year 1870, when he joined the Reform movement inaugurated in New York that year, the object of which was the overthrow of the corrupt Tammany *regime*. He threw himself into this movement with a good deal of enthusiasm, and rendered efficient aid to those who were carrying on the good work. He held no political office, however, until he was chosen Member of Assembly, by a very gratifying majority,

though two strong candidates, CARL SCHMEDLER, Republican, and JOHN MURPHY, Democrat, were opposed to him. His plurality was 636.

Mr. DALY's career upon the floor of the Assembly has shown that he possesses unusual ability. Modest and unassuming in deportment, he is an extremely clear and forcible speaker, and his efforts are not without oratorical grace. He speaks with studied carefulness, and uses well chosen and exceedingly appropriate language. He attracted attention in the early portion of the session by his championship of the bill to settle the vexed question relative to the powers of the common council and certain departments over public works. He is a Member of the Committees on Charitable and Religious Societies, and Trade and Manufactures.

EMERSON E. DAVIS.

Mr. DAVIS is a conceded representative of the commercial interests of the State. He is largely engaged in the lumber and transportation business in Whitehall; and the fact that, though a Democrat, he was elected by a decided majority from a strong Republican district, shows pretty clearly that partisan considerations had very little to do with his election. No man in the State, perhaps, is better acquainted with the needs of the canals, or the intricacies of their management, than Mr. DAVIS. He has made the transportation problem the study of the larger portion of his life-time, and just at this time, when that question is attracting renewed attention, his election to the Assembly may be deemed fortunate for the people of the State. He has already suggested several measures calculated to reform the management of the canals, and whatever may be thought of their merits, or whatever may be their fate in the present session, they will, at least,

have the effect to excite needed discussion upon a question which will bear much controversy. As an illustration of Mr. DAVIS' position in this connection, we may state that during the debate in the Assembly upon the proposed Fifth Article to the Constitution, he took decided ground against most of the members of his own party in advocating that amendment, mainly because it would place the appointment of the Canal Commissioners in the hands of the Governor, and thus do away with the irresponsibility and clashing of authority which now exist on the canals. He made a long and able speech in defense of his action, which bristled with facts and figures, showing the corruption and mismanagement due to the present system. His speech was highly complimented by members of both parties, and no attempt was made to reply to it. The amendment was voted down, however, its features in other respects being distasteful to a majority of the members.

Mr. DAVIS was born in Hampton, Washington county, September 1, 1823, and is, therefore, now in the full prime of life. His education was mainly obtained at Granville Academy. Soon after leaving school he read law for a time with BOYD & BILLINGS in Whitehall, and qualified himself to that extent that he was admitted to the bar in January, 1846. He practiced more or less for a number of years, but he finally became engaged in commercial life at Whitehall, and he is now one of the most successful lumber merchants and forwarders in that thriving city.

He has long been a leading Democrat in Washington county, but we believe he never before held any public office of importance. He was elected to the Assembly by a majority of 393 over JOHN HALL, the Republican candidate. As was eminently fitting, in view of his special qualifications, the Speaker gave him a place upon the Canal Committee. Mr. DAVIS is noted as being one of the most thoughtful and attentive members of the House; and though he votes with his party on party questions, his action on public measures

in general is dictated rather by a regard for the welfare of the whole people than by any considerations of party advantage. He is a man above the average height, of agreeable presence and courteous manners. His complexion is somewhat dark and his features spare, but his face habitually wears a mild and thoughtful expression, and his general appearance is that of a studious and cultivated gentleman. He is a good speaker, and a clear, incisive reasoner, but he deals in facts, and the conclusions therefrom, rather than the meretricious graces of oratory. His speeches embrace the results of deep thought and mature conviction, and are, therefore, generally logical and sound. He is a valuable member, and his ability is acknowledged even by his opponents.

GEORGE B. DEANE, JR.

GEORGE BARTCH DEANE, JR., is a representative young New Yorker, and is at the threshold of what promises to be a brilliant career. He has never held office before, either elective or appointive, but he takes quite naturally to the duties of legislation, and his record will undoubtedly be an honorable one. He was born in New York city August 31, 1848, and is, therefore, in his twenty-sixth year. At the age of eighteen he was married to Miss JENNIE GLASSFORD, also of New York. His father was a native of Albany, and is still living, at the age of fifty-five.

The subject of our sketch was educated in the New York public schools, Seward Institute in Florida, Orange county, and Monticello Academy in Sullivan county. After graduating from the latter institution he studied law and was admitted to practice; but the labors of the profession were not congenial to him and he abandoned it. He is now engaged in the forwarding business with his father.

Since Mr. DEANE attained his majority he has been an

active working Republican, and there are, perhaps, few men of his age better known in New York political circles. For the last two years he has been a member of the Republican Central Committee, and last year he was chairman of the Young Men's Republican Central Committee. He was, in fact, elected to the Assembly as a representative young Republican. The canvass last fall in his district (the ninth) was more than ordinarily sharp, there being three candidates in the field besides himself, viz.: A. J. MATHEWSON, Tammany Hall, PATRICK HENION, Apollo Hall, and JAMES E. MCVEANEY, Liberal. His popularity was such, however, that he was elected by a plurality of 910, the Republican majority in the district last year being but 816. The result of the election was certainly very creditable to Mr. DEANE. He occupies a prominent place on the committees, being a member of Commerce and Navigation, Public Health and State Charitable Institutions. Though a member of no religious denomination, he attends the Baptist Church, of which his wife is a member.

AUGUSTUS DENNISTON.

Though quite a young man, Mr. DENNISTON has passed through quite an eventful career, and has already shown that he possesses the characteristics of the Scotch-Irish ancestry from which he sprang. He was born on the 25th of May, 1842, at Blooming Grove, Orange county, where he still resides. His father was the late Hon. ROBERT DENNISTON, who, in old Barnburner times, was distinguished for his integrity, force of character and ability during several years of service in both Houses of the Legislature, and one term as Comptroller of the State, being a member of the noted "State Military Board." Young DENNISTON was educated by private tutors at home, and enjoys, therefore, a

very thorough acquaintance with all the practical branches of knowledge. In 1860, when his father was elected Comptroller, he accompanied him to Albany as his confidential secretary, and diligently availed himself of the opportunity thus afforded of becoming familiar with the practical details of legislation. At the expiration of the two years term of service, Mr. DENNISTON was seized with the war fever, then widely prevalent among young men, and receiving the appointment of Quartermaster of the 124th Regiment, New York Volunteers, he went to the front with the gallant Col. ELLIS. He made an excellent Quartermaster, winning the good opinion of the entire regiment, but the severity of camp life was too much for him, and he was compelled to resign after about six months service, having contracted a disease by which he was prostrated nearly a twelve-month after his return. Mr. DENNISTON belongs to a patriotic family. Four brothers and a brother-in-law were in the army and navy during the great war. Since the death of his father, in 1867, Mr. DENNISTON has been occupied in administering and managing the large estate left to his care, as well as being trustee of several other estates, and as it includes one of the finest farms in Orange county, it furnishes him ample employment.

Almost from boyhood Mr. DENNISTON has been active in political life, it being his habit always to attend the primary conventions, rightly believing that to be a duty especially incumbent upon those who would secure good nominations. He has also frequently been sent as a delegate to various deliberative bodies. He was elected to his present seat in the fall of 1872, and is the first Assemblyman elected in many years from the country portion of his district, the member being generally taken from the city of Newburgh. His personal popularity is indicated by the fact that he then received a majority of nearly nine hundred over a very popular Liberal Republican opponent, ALEXANDER LESLIE, of Newburgh. He served in the last House — being a member of the Com-

mittees on Charitable and Religious Societies, Public Printing and Privileges and Elections — with undoubted ability, being particularly valuable in the committee room and in the practical details of legislation. He was invariably against all corrupt schemes and “jobs,” and his record will well bear inspection. His Democratic opponent in last fall’s canvass was JAMES W. MILLER, of Newburgh. A tremendous effort was made to elect him, but Mr. DENNISTON received a majority of 291 in a very light poll. His own town gave him a majority of about 70, while the Democratic candidate for senator and sheriff carried it by about 50 majority. By this it will appear that his career thus far has been eminently satisfactory to those who know him best.

Mr. DENNISTON is a gentleman of pleasant manners and incorruptible character, possessing in a large degree those qualities which are essential to the able legislator. He is a consistent member of the Presbyterian church, and, in all the public and private relations of life, is without reproach. He has never married, and, with the exceptions already noted, has always lived on the farm occupied by his father and grandfather. In the present House he is Chairman of the Committee on Two-thirds and Three-fifths Bills and member of Railroads and Charitable and Religious Societies.

ROBERT DICKSON.

We are not exaggerating when we say that Mr. DICKSON, who represents the Second district of Rensselaer county, is, in whatever way we regard him, a man of the highest character. His well developed head and strongly marked features are infallible indications, not only of great natural ability, but of noble impulses and a correct understanding of the relations of life. The son of a father whose life has

rounded out nearly a century, he worthily perpetuates the virtues which distinguish his progenitor, and enjoys, as he well deserves, the unbounded respect and esteem of a community in which he has resided nearly a lifetime. In that community he has always taken a deep interest in all that would add to the welfare of the whole. Blessed with wealth, he has used it for the benefit of others without stint, and it is perhaps just to say that to him, more than to any other one man, the pleasant village of Lansingburgh owes its present beauty and prosperity. Vail avenue, an elegant and fashionable thoroughfare, was opened as the result of his patient and persistent efforts, seconded and assisted by the late JONATHAN E. WHIPPLE, and numerous other improvements, which enhance the beauty of the place, attest his generosity and public spirit. The opening of the avenue referred to was persistently fought by those who failed to see as far into the future as Mr. DICKSON, but the existence of the fine boulevard is proof that he triumphed over all obstacles. He has devoted much of his time to these improvements, working frequently with his own hands when occasion seemed to him to require it.

ROBERT DICKSON was born at Rathfriland, Ireland, on the 12th of January, 1824. His father, ALEXANDER DICKSON, resided nearly fifty years in Ireland, and very nearly half a century ago emigrated to this country. A man of patriarchal simplicity of character and unbounded hospitality, the elder DICKSON is greatly venerated and respected by the community, every member of which feels a personal pride in his gray hairs and homely virtues. The son had no other opportunities than were furnished by the common schools, but his studious habits enabled him, by his own efforts, to secure a very excellent education. While yet a boy, he learned the trade of brush-maker with JOHN G. McMURRAY & Co., of Lansingburgh, and adhered to the business through life, remaining thirty years with the Messrs. McMURRAY & Co., as apprentice, journeyman and partner. He is now running an extensive establishment of his own, and has a large capital

invested in the business, which really forms the leading industry of Lansingburgh.

During the earlier portion of his political life, Mr. DICKSON was a Democrat, and, previous to 1856, he was faithful to the principles and candidates of that party. Since the Republican party came into being, he has been one of its most ardent supporters, never swerving a hair-breadth in his allegiance to its creed or to its standard-bearers. As a consequence, he possesses great influence in the local politics of his district. He is especially popular among the workingmen, with whom he mingles as one of themselves, and is always in full sympathy with any movement which promises to advance the cause of labor, and better the condition of the laborer. The high regard felt for him by his neighbors is perhaps rendered sufficiently obvious by the fact that he has frequently been a member of the village Board of Trustees, and during four years was President of the Board. In this position, to which very little glory or thanks attaches, he always distinguished himself by an energetic and conscientious performance of the duties devolving upon him. In 1872, he was appointed Loan Commissioner, by Gov. DIX, though no intimation had previously been given him that such an honor was in store for him. He did not seek the Assembly nomination which was tendered him last fall, but, in deference to the urgent solicitations of his friends, he consented to run. He did not escape the usual fate of candidates for office. During an unusually sharp canvass, the tongue of slander was busy in a persistent attempt to injure him in the regard of his neighbors. The calumnies had no other effect, however, than to sink their authors still lower in public estimation. His majority over his Democratic opponent, JOSEPH F. KNICKERBOCKER, was 376. On his advent into the Assembly, he was placed upon the Committees on Canals, Villages and Public Health, and thus far, though he has developed no disposition to consume valuable time in oratory, he has made an honorable record.

Mr. DICKSON was married, in 1844, to MARY ANN STRATTON, of Lansingburgh. He is a consistent member of the Baptist persuasion, and it may truly be said of him, that, in all the relations of life, he is distinguished for "whatsoever things are lovely and of good report."

JAMES F. DONAHUE.

JAMES FRANCIS DONAHUE was born in Brooklyn, where he still resides, December 25, 1843. He is a son of TIMOTHY and MARY DONAHUE, who are both natives of Corry, Ireland, and who are still living in Brooklyn at an advanced age. In fact, Mr. DONAHUE comes of a long-lived stock, his grandparents having all of them lived to a great age. When very young, Mr. DONAHUE enjoyed some common school advantages, but he was able to acquire very little aside from the merest rudiments, and he may be said to be really self-educated. Since boyhood he has followed various occupations. He has been at different times a hatter, a candle-maker and a ship-caulker, and, at present, he is very successfully engaged in mercantile pursuits. Soon after the breaking out of the rebellion he enlisted as a private in the Fourteenth (Brooklyn) regiment, which was attached to the first brigade, first corps, army of the Potomac, and was in all the battles in which that noted regiment participated, until nearly the close of the war. He never asked nor sought promotion, but was content to do his duty as a soldier, regardless of honors or emoluments. In 1868 he was married to an estimable lady of Brooklyn. During several years past Mr. DONAHUE has been an active and influential Democratic politician in his district, being frequently called upon to do duty as delegate to the Assembly, Senatorial and County conventions of his party. The good sense and thoroughness

with which he performed his duties, together with his known personal popularity, moved his friends to nominate him for the Assembly in the fall of 1872. He accepted the nomination and was elected, after a spirited contest, by a majority of 283 over PATRICK J. COLLINS, a Democratic opponent, there being no Republican in the field. In the ensuing session he served on three committees, Public Education, Civil Divisions and Public Lands. He was re-elected last fall, the same opponent being in the field, by the increased majority of 447. This year he serves on Charitable and Religious Societies and Public Education, and is known as a quiet, attentive and industrious legislator. Mr. DONAHUE is a little below the medium height, but he is solidly built and well-knit together. His face, which is round and full, is closely shaven, and, without going into details, we may observe that his appearance is prepossessing and indicative of much ability, as well as capacity to appreciate the social amenities of life.

HARVEY G. EASTMAN.

Mr. EASTMAN constitutes, perhaps, the most strongly marked individuality in the present Assembly. He is a genuine representative Yankee; not, indeed, such an outgrowth of American civilization as would be pictured by an envious Briton or a negro-hating Southerner; but one of those model Brother Jonathans who are the personification of energetic perseverance and large-hearted honesty. He is a man who would conquer adverse fate in whatever position he might be placed, and a man, also, well fitted, by his solid natural attainments, and the inherent nobility of his character, to occupy any station in life. His entire career, thus far, is a record of restless, nervous activity, but it has always been an activity directed to some well defined object, certain

of accomplishment. In his business enterprises, Mr. EASTMAN has sometimes displayed daring even to rashness, but he is never chimerical or impracticable. His schemes invariably rest upon sound business principles, and are often designed as much for the welfare of the public at large as for his own emolument. The splendid business school in Poughkeepsie which bears his name, and of which he is the President, is a monument to his indomitable energy and sagacity. It is known everywhere as one of the most successful and useful schools of its kind in the country, and in some respects it is without a rival, while hundreds of prosperous men in all parts of the United States attribute their success, in large degree, to the practical lessons received within its walls. If Mr. EASTMAN had accomplished nothing else during his active life, the foundation of the Eastman Business College will be regarded as an achievement worthy to fill the measure of any man's life.

HARVEY G. EASTMAN was born in Marshall, Oneida county, November 16, 1832. He enjoyed in youth very few opportunities for acquiring an education. Occasionally he attended a public school, but public schools had not then reached the excellence they now possess, and it was not always an easy task for the most determined pupil to extort an education from one of them. Young EASTMAN obtained his education, however, and lost no time in putting it to practical use. He early conceived the idea of inaugurating a school which should aim to give young men the practical business knowledge so necessary to them, but which is imperfectly obtained amid the multiplicity of studies in our common schools and academies. His idea was thoroughly thought out and elaborately matured before he put it in practice, and when he actually commenced the experiment in Poughkeepsie, some sixteen years ago, it was on a very limited scale. He located in a small room, and began the development of his theories with a single pupil. He was a stranger in the place, and the new comer, with his new ideas, was

obliged to face a good deal of discouragement from a people somewhat imbued with old fogyism. He struggled, however, fought adversity and public opinion, advertised stupendously and gradually worked his way up. His theory of education soon became popular, and students flocked to him from all quarters. From one pupil his school came to embrace sixteen hundred, representing all the States of the Union, filling the staid old town with a new population, and giving the city a noticeable impetus in growth and prosperity. Instead of a single apartment the needs of the institution now require four spacious structures, and an educational corps of more than sixty instructors. It is an institution in which the inhabitants of Poughkeepsie may well feel pride.

But while building up his own institution, Mr. EASTMAN was not blind to the interest of the city which he had chosen as the field of his operations, and numerous public improvements which he has initiated or actively aided, attest his public spirit and sagacity. The project of building a bridge across the Hudson river at Poughkeepsie, which is now so far advanced that its successful completion at an early day is assured, is the result of his active and unremitting exertions. That it will ere long be the connecting link in another grand trunk line between the west and the east cannot be doubted. Mr. EASTMAN was one of the first promoters of the enterprise, and advocated and secured the passage of the charter of the company in the Legislature of 1872. The corner stone of the structure, which is to be of magnificent proportions, was laid on the 17th of December, 1873, with imposing ceremonies, Mr. EASTMAN, as Mayor of the city, presiding.

The man who exhibits such qualities in a business point of view, cannot fail to prove valuable in public position. Hence Mr. EASTMAN has frequently been honored with important trusts by his fellow citizens. Twice he has been elected Mayor of Poughkeepsie, holding the office at the present time, and twice he has been elected a member of

Assembly. For eight years past he has held the office of State Commissioner of Public Charities, his last re-appointment being by Governor DIX last fall. A year ago he was recommended by the Governor, United States Senators, State Officers, and nearly the entire Senate and Assembly as Minister to Japan. He has always taken a leading part in public measures in his city and the state. In every position, whether in official, business or private life, he is distinguished for his unimpeachable integrity, and those engaging personal qualities that mark the cultivated gentleman. To these distinguishing qualities is allied that ever present and most prominent one, his indomitable perseverance, through which he wrings success from even reluctant fortune, backed by the vital force of a manhood in its early prime.

Identified with the Republican party from its earliest organization, he has ever remained faithful throughout all its fortunes, and has always been considered its ablest and most reliable local leader, ready at all times to devote his purse, time and labor, unrequited, to its interests. For four years past he has held the Chairmanship of the Dutchess County Committee.

In the Assembly canvass of 1871, his popularity was such that his Democratic competitor withdrew from the field, and he received all the votes cast. The next year Mr. EASTMAN declined a renomination, and the Democracy carried the district by something over 1,200 majority, 900 of which was obtained in the city of Poughkeepsie. Last fall he received a majority in the city of 556, the Democratic State ticket and Senator receiving 526 majority. His plurality in the district was 127, BENJAMIN S. BROAS, Democrat, and STEPHEN S. ENGLISH, Temperance, being the opposing candidates. No further statement is needed to show his popularity at home. During his first session he served on the Committees on Cities, Education and Sub-Committee of the Whole. This year he is Chairman of Cities and member of Grievances and State Charitable Institutions. During the

present session he has been distinguished for his efforts in behalf of Rapid Transit in New York. The plan which he submitted to accomplish that desideratum possesses novel and meritorious features, and has attracted wide attention. At an immense meeting held in New York to consider the subject, Mr. EASTMAN advocated his scheme in an able and eloquent speech, and his efforts in this regard have been warmly complimented by the press of New York.

Few members of the House are more generally popular than Mr. EASTMAN. He is genial and companionable in all his personal intercourse, and a genuine respect grows out of the fact that he is energetic, persistent and capable in every situation in which he is placed. He was married, in June, 1856, to Miss MINNIE M. CLARK, of Canastota, N. Y.

WILLIAM H. ELY.

Mr. ELY is a quiet but extremely attentive member, representing the first district of Otsego county. Though new to the Legislature, he is well known throughout Otsego county, where he has resided all his life, and enjoys deserved popularity. He was born in Middlefield, Otsego county, on the 2d of October, 1829, being the son of Hon. SAMUEL ELY, now deceased, who was a prominent physician, and at one time President of the State Medical Society. He was also a member of the State Senate from 1840 to 1843, both years inclusive, a member of the Assembly in 1836, and has filled numerous other positions.

Mr. ELY, the present member, was educated in common and select schools, and brought up to mercantile pursuits. He was married, in 1865, to Miss ELLA CARYL, of New York city. Establishing himself in business, he followed it successfully until a few years ago, when he turned his attention to farming, and is now the owner of a desirable estate at East Worcester, where he resides.

He has always been a Democrat, and has from an early age been more or less in politics. Possessing, as he does, a rare degree of tact and judgment, his co-operation and counsel have been highly esteemed by his party. During a period of six years, commencing in 1863 and omitting 1867, he served in the Otsego Board of Supervisors, making an excellent record for integrity and legislative capacity. So well satisfied were his constituents, indeed, that he was twice returned to the board without opposition.

He was elected to the Assembly by a majority of 486, over an extremely popular Republican, Hon. WM. W. CAMPBELL, the Democratic majority last year being only 67. He is a member of the Committee on Roads and Bridges.

ALONZO H. FARRAR.

Mr. FARRAR is a young man who has as fair a future before him as any other in the Assembly. He has just made his entry into public life, and being in the flush of early manhood, and possessed of much more than ordinary abilities, it is reasonable to anticipate for him a brilliant and useful career. Personally, he is one of those whole-souled fellows who are popular with everybody. He is quick of perception, pleasing of address, keenly perceptive of the ludicrous side of human nature, and an excellent talker. It is not surprising, therefore, that he should be a general favorite. In point of solid attainments, also, he is fitted to rank with the most accomplished members of the House, and he is in all respects a gentleman whose character it is a pleasure to contemplate.

ALONZO HAWLEY FARRAR was born in Middletown, Vt., on the 29th of March, 1843, and is, therefore, thirty-one years of age. His father, FRANKLIN A. FARRAR, still resides at West Rupert, Vt., and is a retired farmer. His

mother's maiden name was MARY A. HAWLEY. Young FARRAR received his education at Fort Edward Institute, Burr & Burton Seminary, Manchester, Vt., and the Albany Law School. Graduating from the latter institution with honor, he was admitted to the bar in 1864. Soon after, he commenced practicing law at Kinderhook, Columbia county, and has met with gratifying success. In December, 1868, he was married to ANNA C. MESICK, of Kinderhook. As the result of his eight or nine years of practice, Mr. FARRAR enjoys wide repute as an advocate, and is, to-day, one of the most brilliant members of the Columbia county bar.

Since attaining his majority, Mr. FARRAR has taken a warm interest in politics, being always identified with the Republican party. He never ran for office, however, until last fall, when he was opposed by a popular Democrat, PETER F. MESICK, and elected to the Assembly by a majority of 307, in a district which was Democratic the previous year by 324 majority.

Mr. FARRAR holds orthodox views in religion, and possesses a character, in all respects, above reproach. Since he has taken his seat in the Assembly, he has made an excellent record. His maiden speech, made in opposition to the proposed amendment to the Fifth Article of the Constitution, attracted general attention, and not only placed him in the front rank of debaters, but gave indication of his independent spirit, his action not being in accordance with what was regarded as the policy of his party. He, however, deemed it his duty to enter his protest against any attempt to take the powers of government out of the hands of the people, and the fact that the proposition was defeated is undoubtedly due to the strenuous opposition of Mr. FARRAR and Col. CHARLES S. SPENCER, of New York, both Republicans. In the organization of the House, Mr. FARRAR was awarded a place on the important committees on the Judiciary, Grievances and Local and Special Laws.

HAMILTON FISH, JR.

Colonel FISH is the youngest member of the present Assembly, being only twenty-five years of age. He was born in Albany April 17, 1849, while his father, now Secretary of State of the United States, was Governor of the State of New York. The career of ex-Governor FISH is so well known to the country that we need make no more than the briefest reference to it here. He has served the country in numerous capacities, and has always, whether his duties were legislative, executive or diplomatic, displayed a high order of statesmanship, and reflected honor upon the nation and the State of his birth. At the present moment he occupies that which, next to the Presidential office, is the most important position in the National Government, and the signal ability which he has displayed in the settlement of intricate international questions has given him a world-wide fame.

Col. FISH, therefore, comes of good stock, and it is just to observe that he has already shown that he possesses in large measure the qualities which distinguish his illustrious parent. He is well and finely educated, endowed with rare natural talents, and is besides a man of keen perception, correct judgment and strict integrity. It is perfectly safe to predict for him a successful career. He was, as we have said, educated in Columbia college, New York city. Graduating in 1869, he was chosen valedictorian of the class of that year, and acquitted himself with credit. After an interval of two years, during which he acted as private secretary for his father in the State Department, he entered Columbia College Law School, and graduated from that department in the spring of 1873, with all the honors. He was then admitted to the bar, and has since practiced his chosen profession, having an office at No. 16 Wall street, New York city. On the accession of Governor DIX to the gubernatorial chair,

he was appointed aide-de-camp upon his staff, with the rank of Colonel.

In politics Col. FISH has, of course, always been a Republican, and though his record is as yet a short one, he has performed important services for the party. During the exciting Presidential campaign of 1872, he was Chairman of the Putnam County Republican Committee, and in that capacity took an active part in the contest. He was also a delegate from that county to the Republican State Convention at Utica, on the 24th of September. His nomination to the Assembly by the Republicans of Putnam county followed, and though his Democratic opponent was SAXTON SMITH, a gentleman who has already distinguished himself in both branches of the Legislature, he was elected by a majority of 431. For the first time in its history, Putnam county gave a decided majority for the entire Republican State and County ticket at the late election. The Speaker of the House made deserved recognition of Col. FISH's ability by giving him a place on the Committees on Cities and Militia, and the Chairmanship of State Charitable Institutions.

Col. FISH's genial manner and innumerable graces of character have won him hosts of friends, and he is extremely popular in Albany social circles. He is an Episcopalian in religious belief, and is unmarried.

ROBERT B. FOOTE.

Mr. FOOTE represents, for the second time, the Fifth district of Erie county, which has heretofore been Democratic. He is a man of considerable ability and force of character, having, by dint of well-directed energy, worked himself up from poverty to a position of comparative affluence.

Born in England, on the 13th of February, 1844, he was brought to this country by his parents when only three years old. His youth was spent upon the farm, with intervals of hard study in the common school and academy. During the winters of 1861 and 1862, and also that of 1865, he taught school. In 1862 he enlisted as a private in the 116th Regiment of New York Volunteers, and accompanied the regiment in the eventful campaign which culminated in the capture of Port Hudson. In the sanguinary struggle for the possession of that stronghold, he lost the forefinger of his right hand and the index and middle fingers of his left hand. The disability thus occasioned resulted in his honorable discharge a couple of months later, he having in the mean time been promoted to a non-commissioned grade.

In 1864 he located in the oil regions of Pennsylvania, and became interested in certain oil property which proved very valuable. He operated several oil wells and kept a hardware store until 1867, when he left the oil regions, having secured a moderate fortune. He then purchased a farm in the town of Hamburg, Erie county, and has since been quietly engaged in agricultural pursuits, in which he has been fairly successful. He was married in 1865 to MARY G. KINGSCOTT, of Buffalo.

Always a strong Republican, Mr. FOOTE has generally been quite active in the local councils of his party, but until elected to the Assembly, in 1872, he never held office. He ran for supervisor of his town three years ago, but was defeated by a small majority, as the town has generally been Democratic. His majority over Mr. WILEY, in the Assembly canvass of 1872, was 240. Last fall he was re-elected by a majority of 140 over FRANK M. THORN.

Mr. FOOTE is a man of quiet manner and modest bearing; though he has little to say in debate, he watches the legislative proceedings with close interest, and is seldom absent from his seat. In the last House he was a member of the Committee on Claims, Two-thirds and Three-fifths Bills and

Indian Affairs. He is now upon Claims, State Charitable Institutions and Indian Affairs.

GEORGE A. GOSS.

Mr. Goss was born at Pittsford, N. Y., March 3, 1834. He is the son of Hon. EPHRAIM GOSS, who represented the Twenty-eighth (Rochester) district in the State Senate during the years 1860 and 1861. Senator Goss was born in West Fulton, Schoharie county, N. Y., on the 12th of June, 1806. Mr. Goss's mother was the daughter of CHAUNCEY PORTER, and born in Nassau, Rensselaer county, N. Y., March 9, 1814; his great grandfather, EPHRAIM GOSS, served through the war of Independence, and was a gallant and successful soldier. The subject of this sketch received his education in the common and union district school. For a short time he followed the occupation of farmer, but for several years he has been engaged in the commission business. His first vote was given for the Republican ticket in the year 1855, and he has ever since been a reliable and active Republican, devoting much time as a member of the County Central Committee and otherwise to the success of the party. Besides holding a number of town offices, he was in the year 1871 unanimously nominated by the Republican Convention of the First Assembly District of Monroe county, and triumphantly elected, and in 1872 was re-elected by 322 majority, defeating RICHARD D. COLE, the Democratic candidate. In 1873 he was again chosen, receiving a majority of 385 over S. HATCH GOULD, Democrat. Last year Mr. Goss was Chairman of the Committee on Expenditures of the Executive Department, and member of the Committees on Villages and Education. This year he is Chairman of Villages and member of Commerce and Navigation and Sub-committee of the Whole.

He is a regular attendant upon the sessions of the House, looking after the interest of the State, and especially watching and taking care of the business of his constituents.

Frank, genial and courteous in his intercourse with every one, Mr. Goss is certainly a very popular member of the present House. He is large and well built, with a prepossessing countenance and generally agreeable presence. He possesses what is a prime requisite to those compelled to labor in the unhealthy atmosphere of the Assembly chamber, a sound constitution and robust physique, but above all, he is a man of unquestioned integrity of character and earnestness of purpose. He is still unmarried.

HARMON L. GREGORY.

Mr. GREGORY is simply an unostentatious citizen of Schuyler county, where he has lived and worked hard all his life. He is, however, a good citizen, able and efficient in the discharge of every public duty, and no shadow of suspicion attaches to his name. He was born in Reading, Schuyler county, on the 7th of November, 1822, being the son of JOSIAH GREGORY, now deceased, who was a native of Connecticut, a mechanic, and a pioneer settler of what is now known as Altay, in Schuyler county. Like others at that early day, he struggled long with privations unknown to later years. He died at the age of 86, and his wife, LOIS, died at the age of 70. The subject of our sketch, however, was favored with a good common school education, and commenced teaching at the age of eighteen years. He taught during several winter terms, working on the farm summers. In 1853 he represented his town in the Board of Supervisors of Steuben county—before the formation of Schuyler—and was elected to the same office for the latter county in 1867,

and re-elected in 1868, 1869 and 1870. He was well qualified, both by nature and experience, for the duties of the office, and therefore enjoyed, in a marked degree, the confidence, respect and esteem of his constituents and of his fellow members in the Board. In 1869 he was chairman of the Board.

Mr. GREGORY was born amid Democratic influences, and until 1856 he acted with that party. Since the formation of the Republican organization he has steadily acted with it. He voted on the day he reached his majority and has never missed an election since.

All who know Mr. GREGORY, of whatever party, creed or sect, give him credit for intelligence, fairness and unflinching integrity. No blot or stain has ever tarnished his character as a Republican or citizen, and no man enjoys more fully the confidence and respect of his own immediate neighbors — those who have the best opportunity to understand and appreciate a man's true worth. He was the member from Schuylker in 1872, and performed his duties satisfactorily in all respects. In the fall of that year he was a candidate for re-election, but was defeated by Mr. McGUIRE, owing to local complications, by 104 votes. Last fall Mr. McGUIRE was again his opponent, and after a hotly contested canvass Mr. GREGORY was successful by 16 majority, being probably the only Republican in the county who could have defeated Mr. M.

Mr. GREGORY was married in March, 1845, to CATHARINE SUTPHIN, of Tyrone. A plain, honest farmer, he depends as little upon meretricious display as any man in the Assembly, and there are few, perhaps, who will on the whole make a better record.

MATTHEW GRIFFIN.

MR. GRIFFIN is a self-made man. His early youth was passed amid humble surroundings, and though he was compelled to earn his own support from a very early age, he managed, by close application during his winter schooling, to obtain a good education. He was born in Fishkill, Dutchess county, in this State, October 22, 1811, of parents who were of English descent, his father's name being EZEKIEL GRIFFIN. His education was mainly self-acquired after he became able to work. At the age of nine he was "put out," as the phrase is, as a servant boy, his parents being in very poor circumstances. Two years later young GRIFFIN went to Delaware county and commenced doing farm work on his own account; so industrious was he that by the time he had reached the age of eighteen, he had accumulated sufficient means to buy a small place, and make a comfortable home for his parents, who lived with him until they died, his father in 1838, and his mother in 1842. After his eighteenth year, he was able to secure schooling during three winters, working out during the remainder of the year. He worked by the day or week until he had reached his twenty-fifth year, by which time, as the result of prudence and close economy, he found himself the possessor of a respectable savings. With this, in 1836, he established himself in a mercantile business. This he continued until 1871. In 1846 he returned to Rondout, Ulster county, and engaged in the steam forwarding business between Rondout and New York; but after remaining three years he returned to Delaware county. For several years, also, he dealt largely in butter for the New York markets. In the intervals of business, MR. GRIFFIN was a hard student, spending most of his leisure in a determined effort to master a knowledge of the law. As a result he was admitted to the bar in Albany, in 1851,

and has since, besides attending to his mercantile business, practiced as an attorney and counselor more or less continuously, and with a good degree of success. He is now practicing law, devoting a portion of his time to the management of his fine farm near Griffin's corners, Delaware county.

Mr. GRIFFIN's probity of character and purity of life, together with the warm interest he ever felt in the welfare of those around him, made him very popular among his townsmen, and he has been frequently called upon to fill positions of trust. Middletown, in which he has lived for fifty years, contains a Democratic preponderance of from one to two hundred. He has been elected, however, to various local offices, and was justice of the peace several years.

In his political connection, Mr. GRIFFIN has always been either Whig or Republican. He voted for HENRY CLAY for President three times, and for HARRISON twice. He voted for TAYLOR in 1852, and for SCOTT in 1856. Since that time his votes and influence have been given to the nominees of the Republican party. His Assembly district is quite closely contested, but he was elected in the fall of 1871, by a majority of 250, and in 1872, he exceeded those figures by one hundred votes. In 1873, his majority over LEMUEL SINES, the "Bull-dog" of Democracy in Delaware, was 89, the canvass being an unusually spirited one.

Of his course in the Assembly, it is sufficient to say that he has fully justified the confidence of those who elected him. In 1873, he took a decided interest in defeating the bill to abolish the usury laws, and the bill to exempt bonds and mortgages from taxation. He is a good speaker, a man of strong convictions and earnest views, and has regard at all times to what is for the best interest of the commonwealth. He participates frequently and ably in debate, and being active and energetic in the performance of his duty, he may fairly be regarded as among the most efficient members of the lower House.

Though he is in the prime of life, his personal aspect is

quite venerable, his tall and commanding form and patriarchal beard giving him a dignity which comports well with a demeanor in which courtesy, frankness and modesty are the chief characteristics. He was married in July, 1833, to Miss CLARA DODGE, by whom he has had five children, two sons and three daughters. His eldest son died in 1872; but the rest of his children are all comfortably settled in life. His second son is a graduate of the Albany Law school, and is now practicing with very fair prospects.

EMORY W. GURNEE.

The First district of Wayne county, which usually gives a Republican majority of about 300, is represented by a Democrat for the first time in twenty years. Of course local influences rather than Democratic votes contributed to this result, but the high character of the man who has achieved the honor had not a little to do with it. Mr. GURNEE is a man of the highest standing in the community, where he has resided for the past ten years, and, whether he is in political accord with the district or not, he would be incapable of misrepresenting it in any sense.

EMORY W. GURNEE was born in Sodus, Wayne county, February 2, 1843. He has, therefore, passed his thirty-first year. His paternal ancestors came from France. Previous to his thirteenth year, he attended a district school, after which he spent four years in Sodus Academy, and two years at Eastman's Business College, in Poughkeepsie, as student and instructor. During these years, however, much of his time was spent upon his father's farm. At the age of seventeen, he commenced teaching a district school, and during the next three years he taught in several schools in New York and Michigan. His education, however, well fitted

him for commercial pursuits, and he lost no time in availing himself of opportunities in that direction. As a result, we find him to-day a prosperous banker in the village of Clyde, where he located in 1864.

In politics, Mr. GURNEE has always been a Democrat. He is one of the most active and influential members of his party in Wayne county, and, notwithstanding the fact that his town is usually opposed to him, politically, he has frequently held elective offices of trust. In 1866, he was chosen corporation treasurer of the village of Clyde, and regularly re-elected each year for six years. In 1869, he was elected town clerk by a gratifying majority, and, in March, 1873, he was elected supervisor of Galen by 138 majority. Last fall he was placed in nomination for the Assembly against JOHN E. HOUGH, the regular Republican candidate, and elected by a majority of 285, the Republican majority in 1872 being 493.

Mr. GURNEE is a consistent member of the Presbyterian church, upright and honorable in all his dealings, and a man of sound judgment and excellent business habits. While he is not to be classed among the talking members, he is valuable alike in counsel and in active work, and will undoubtedly make a creditable record. He is a member of the Committee on Banks.

STEPHEN H. HAMMOND.

STEPHEN H. HAMMOND was born in Groton, Tompkins county, N. Y., on the 24th day of November, 1828. His father, CLARK HAMMOND, came, early in life, from Vermont, and settled in Tompkins county, where he married a sister of the Hon. E. G. SPAULDING, now of Buffalo, N. Y., and the mother of the subject of this sketch. The first part of

Mr. HAMMOND's life was spent at Ithaca in attendance, in due time, at the common schools and at the Ithaca Academy, with the usual struggles and accompaniments which follow youth in humble life. He acquired, however, quite early, much general information, from books and otherwise, outside of the routine of mere school life, and his intelligence and varied and extensive reading, soon made him the welcome companion of his seniors — drawn together by the common tie of a love for literature. His law studies were commenced at this time, and progressed with a good degree of success. His literary attainments were abundantly recognized, and when, at the age of twenty, he was announced to lecture in the regular winter course at Ithaca, the large hall, on the evening appointed for the lecture, was crowded to overflowing, and hundreds were unable to gain admittance. This success stimulated him to make the effort to secure a more complete education, and he accordingly prepared for college, and in September, 1850, entered as a student at Geneva (now Hobart) College, from which he graduated, in 1854, with distinguished honor. Mr. HAMMOND spent a portion of his last college year in the State Treasurer's office, his uncle, Hon. E. G. SPAULDING, being then Treasurer.

In the mean time, Mr. HAMMOND had been admitted to practice in all the courts, and in January, 1856, he received the appointment of Deputy Attorney-General of the State, which office he held continuously for sixteen years, under all shades of party administration, thus being brought into intimate relations with prominent public men and affairs during a very memorable period of the history of the State.

Mr. H. married, in 1856, the second daughter of the late Hon. A. W. LANGDON, of Geneva, in this State, where he now resides.

Mr. HAMMOND was selected to deliver the address before the Alumni of Hobart College, in July, 1871, and acquitted himself with great credit. The correspondent of the *New York Tribune* thus referred to the oration on that occasion:

"His theme may be designated as 'The Philosophy of the Times.' It was an exposition, at once learned and popular, of the genius and characteristics of the age. He signalized the more potent forces of cotemporary history, indicated the fundamental distinctions between the present times and other times, and showed, by the great transforming movements in politics, science, industry, society and war, that our age, from a philosophical point of view, must be recognized as among the wonderful ages of the world's history. About one half of his discourse was devoted to a consideration of the subject of *war* as a historical phenomenon. Here his knowledge of history, his powers of description, his ability in generalization, had full scope. He concluded by showing that, though the enthusiastic hopes of philanthropists had not been realized; that though in fact the last twenty years had been one of the most sanguinary periods of history, there were yet the profoundest reasons for faith in the approach of an era of universal peace. His delivery was admirable, and the audience rewarded him by its attention and applause."

Mr. H. is serving his term in the first elective political office of importance. His great familiarity with public affairs, in consequence of his connection with the Attorney-General's office for so long a time, gives promise of great usefulness in the Assembly.

He is serving on the Judiciary Committee, and also on the Committee on Public Printing. His election as a Democrat, by a round majority, from a district usually largely Republican (Mr. H. being the third only in a quarter of a century), is an indorsement which any man might covet. During the session, Mr. HAMMOND has distinguished himself by his advocacy of a bill, which he originated, to reform abuses in the County Treasurers' offices, and to simplify the mode of paying the State taxes. He has also initiated several bills designed to improve the practice in the courts of the State. He is one of the most active and valuable members of the minority, and few legislators will leave Albany at the close of the session with a better reputation in every way. In religion, Mr. H. is an Episcopalian.

PATRICK HANRAHAN.

PATRICK HANRAHAN, who represents the First District of Erie county, was born in county Clare, Ireland, in the year 1843. He was educated in the common schools, came to this country at an early age, and is at present engaged in the grocery business in Buffalo. He is a Roman Catholic in religious belief, and has been a life-long Democrat and quite active in the local politics of Buffalo, though he never before held office. He was chosen to the Assembly over JOHN O'BRIAN, who represented the district last year, by a majority of 469, and is a member of the Joint Library Committee and Sub-committee of the Whole.

LEONARD F. HARDY.

Very few districts in the State are more efficiently represented than the First District of Cayuga, which sends us **Mr. HARDY** for the second time. **Mr. HARDY** makes no great pretension to superior gifts as a legislator, but he is nevertheless able to take faithful care of the interests of his constituents, without losing sight of what is for the welfare of the State at large. He does not make many set speeches, but he never fails to express his views clearly and cogently, whenever the occasion seems to him to demand such an expression. Always in attendance at the sessions of the House, as well as at the sessions of his committees, he keeps himself fully posted in reference to the progress of legislation, and aims to do his whole duty to his constituency and to the State.

LEONARD F. HARDY was born in Westminster, Vermont, in August, 1827, his parents removing to this State and settling in Cortland county when he was quite young. He secured a thorough education in Cortland Academy and in the State Normal School at Albany, graduating from the latter institution in 1855. He adopted teaching as a profession, and was for eight years principal of the Weedsport Union School. Subsequently he engaged in a mercantile business at Weedsport, which he still continues very successfully. He held the position of School Commissioner from 1867 to 1872, but, with that exception, he never held public office until his election to the Assembly in 1872. He has been a Republican since the organization of the party, and previous to that was a Whig. For many years he has been active in the local politics of Cayuga county, and his popularity is very great, as is fully shown by the vote he received in 1872 and 1873. In the former year he received a majority of 1,020, a gain of nearly 400 on the Assembly vote of the previous year. Last fall, however, in spite of local complications and an unusually light vote, his majority was 1,406, his opponent being JAMES KERR. Not many members of the last House have received such gratifying endorsement of their course. Mr. HARDY, however, is one of those men against whom there has never been even a whisper of suspicion, and his constituents justly repose the fullest confidence in his integrity. He served in the last House on the Committees on Expenditures of the House, Public Lands and Engrossed Bills. In the present Assembly, he is Chairman of Claims and member of Internal Affairs.

JAMES HAYES.

Mr. HAYES' parents were born in Ireland and emigrated to this country many years ago, locating in New York city, where the subject of this sketch was born on the 11th of May, 1830. Though his father's family were in humble circumstances, young HAYES managed to obtain a good ordinary education at the public schools. At an early age he entered a printing office and learned the "art preservative." He worked at the press several years after attaining his majority, but finally abandoned printing. During the palmy days of the Volunteer Fire Department, Mr. HAYES was an active and prominent member and officer, and for a number of years he was honorably identified with that organization of the past. From a very early age Mr. HAYES has mingled more or less in local politics. A disciple of the Tammany society in its best days, he is still a trusted member of that association of politicians, and one of the most influential Democrats of that stripe in the third Assembly district. The extent to which he has been trusted by the rank and file, as well as by the leaders of the party, is shown by the fact that he was a member of the New York Common Council for five years in succession, being first elected in the spring of 1862. In 1866 he was chosen Supervisor and held a seat in that board for five consecutive years. In these capacities he has shown signal ability, not so much in speech-making, however, as in managing the practical details of local legislation and in closely watching the interests of his constituents. In 1870 he warmly espoused the cause of the Young Democracy. His temporary defection from Tammany Hall did not result in any loss of popularity, inasmuch as he was elected to the Assembly in the fall of 1871 by a very decided majority. His services as a State legislator were so satis-

factory to his constituents, that he was re-elected in 1872 and again in 1873 by very decided majorities. In 1872 he served on the Committees on Trade and Manufactures, and Indian affairs. In 1873 he was on the Committees on Expenditures of the House, and Public Lands. This year he is a member of the Committee on Cities. Mr. HAYES is a slimly-built, dark-complexioned man; his countenance indicates a high degree of intelligent capacity and the ability to appreciate the requirements of any situation. He is a married man, and a member of the Catholic church.

WILLIAM C. HAZLETON.

The Democratic county of Seneca is represented by WILLIAM C. HAZLETON, of Ovid, one of the finest looking men in the House. He was born at Ulysses, Tompkins county, September 1, 1835, his father being a respectable and prosperous farmer. He received a good common school and academic education, attending school pretty regularly until he reached his majority. Not entertaining a very strong liking for an agricultural life, he determined to qualify himself for the legal profession, and to that end studied law for some time with DANA & BEERS, at Ithaca. His success was such that he was admitted to the bar in 1857, and since then he has been successfully engaged in the practice of his profession at Ovid.

His political record is perfectly straight, never having swerved from his Democratic allegiance. Several times he has been honored with the confidence of his fellow citizens, by being elected to offices for which his professional duties naturally fitted him. He was Justice of the Peace at Ovid during one term, and during two four-year terms, from 1863 to 1866, and from 1869 to 1872, he was District Attorney of

Seneca county. He was elected to the Assembly by about the average Democratic majority, over ISAAC N. JOHNSON, Republican. He is a member of the Committees on Canals and Local and Special Laws.

Mr. HAZLETON is a man who would attract attention in any assemblage. Possessing a well-proportioned figure, fine features and an easy, pleasing address, he is physically well endowed, and his white hair, which he keeps closely cut, gives him a venerable appearance somewhat beyond his years. He is evidently unambitious to shine as an orator, though he is a fair speaker, and his ability in this regard is greatly enhanced by his gifts of person. He prefers to perform his duty quietly and unostentatiously, and his constituents will probably not find fault with him.

JAMES HEALEY.

Mr. HEALEY is a representative from the First district of New York city for the third successive term. He is a quiet, unassuming gentleman, devoted to the interests of his constituents, unyielding in his adherence to his party, but at the same time genial, courteous and companionable toward both friends and opponents. Though he lays no claim to oratorical ability, he understands thoroughly the routine as well as the undercurrent of legislation.

He was born in the county Clare, Ireland, in the year 1838, and is therefore just entering upon the prime of manhood and vigor, and undoubtedly has yet a brilliant career before him. His parents, who were respectable people of moderate means, emigrated to this country in the year 1850, locating in New York city. Young HEALEY went to school a year or two, and in 1852 entered, as an errand boy, the establishment of WILLIAMSON, GRIFFITH & Co., extensive sugar refiners.

With that firm he has remained ever since, passing through various grades of responsibility, and the thoroughness and fidelity with which he has always performed his duties have won for him the entire confidence and regard of his employers.

Mr. HEALEY early took an active interest in local politics, identifying himself with the Tammany wing of the Democratic party in the metropolis. In the year 1868 he was elected to the Board of Assistant Aldermen, and re-elected in 1869; but in the following year he was legislated out of office. He was first elected to the Assembly in the fall of 1871, when he ran against the regular Tammany candidate, and was successful by a plurality of 404. During the ensuing session he was a member of the Committees on Public Health and Expenditures of the Executive Department, and during that session also he was instrumental in securing an important change in the street-cleaning contract. In the fall of 1872 he received the regular Tammany nomination, and was elected by a plurality of 717. In the session of 1873 he was placed on the Committees on Federal Relations and Expenditures of the Executive Department. Though a minority member, he succeeded in making a good record last year, and in the fall he again received a straight Tammany nomination, running against MICHAEL W. BURNS, Republican, and DANIEL KENNEDY, Apollo Hall. He seems, in this canvass, to have taken a sudden leap into popularity, for he was chosen by a plurality of 1,510, and a majority over both opponents of upward of 500. In the present session he serves on the Committees on Commerce and Navigation and State Charitable Institutions, and it is to be said of him that he performs his duties ably and industriously.

JOHN HERRICK.

Mr. HERRICK, the Member from Lewis county, is one of those members who performs the duties of legislation quietly and unobtrusively. His voice is rarely, if ever, heard in debate, but it needs no second glance at him, as he sits in his seat, to be assured of the fact that he evinces keen interest in all that is passing. He represents a district which, though quite evenly balanced politically, usually sends a Republican representative to the Assembly. Mr. HERRICK, however, is a well known business man of that section, and is exceedingly popular, which probably accounts for his election.

He was born in the city of Schenectady on the 27th of February, 1836. His early youth was spent in the ancient Dutch city, and there and farther up the Mohawk valley most of his relatives reside. He received a good common school education, and while still a youth, located in the thriving village of Amsterdam, where he became engaged in mercantile business, and where, in July, 1860, he was married. Soon after his marriage he removed to New Bremen, Lewis county, and there he has since remained, one of the most prosperous and thriving merchants in that section.

Mr. HERRICK has always been a Democrat, thoroughly attached to his party, and invariably active in the work of organizing the local campaigns. The fact that for eleven years in succession he has been elected to a seat in the Board of Supervisors, is perhaps as good an illustration of the status he occupies in the local politics of his county as could be obtained. In that local legislative body he has occupied a prominent and influential position, and had opportunity to develop precisely those qualities which are valuable in the State Legislature.

Mr. HERRICK is a stoutly built, medium sized man, with

dark complexion and jet-black hair and eyes. As we have intimated he intelligently appreciates the duties of his position, and will undoubtedly leave the capitol with an honorable record.

JOHN D. HILLER.

MR. HILLER, of Chautauqua, is serving his second term as a member of the House. He is a fine looking man, about forty years of age, with dark hair, full beard, well-proportioned form, and frank, expressive features. His presence conveys the impression to those who know him for the first time that he has sufficient brains and capacity for almost any position in life, and it is but just to say that a closer acquaintance confirms the impression.

He was born at Smith's Mills, Chautauqua county, where he still resides. His father, JOHN I. HILLER, was a native of Schoharie county, but removed to Chautauqua county in 1828, and died there a couple of years ago, at the ripe age of seventy. Mr. HILLER laid the foundation of his education in the common schools, spending, however, one year at the Fredonia Academy. Subsequently he entered the State Normal School at Albany, and after accomplishing the entire course at that institution, graduated with credit in 1855. Being well qualified for teaching he spent one year in charge of a department in Canandaigua Academy, and also taught two years in the district schools; but teaching was not precisely to his taste and he entered mercantile life. Since 1858 he has managed a country store at Smith's Mills with fair success. In 1857 he married LIBBIE M. SMITH, a daughter of RODNEY M. SMITH, one of the earliest settlers of Chautauqua county.

MR. HILLER held the office of Clerk of the town of Hanover during the years 1864 and 1865, and in 1868 and 1869 he served in the Chautauqua Board of Supervisors. While

the rebellion raged in the South, he warmly sympathized with the cause of the Union, and though not himself liable to military duty, he furnished a representative recruit at a time when men were greatly needed. He has been a Republican since the formation of the party, and has always taken an active interest in the political movements of the day. Though not a strict churchman, Mr. HILLER is a man of correct life, large heart and generous impulses, and thoroughly in earnest. His convictions are deeply-rooted and decided, and his influence and votes are invariably on the side of right and justice. He has developed no especial *penchant* for oratory on the floor of the Assembly, but he is able to talk and to talk well when the occasion arises.

He served his constituents very faithfully last year as a member of the Committees on Roads and Bridges, and Engrossed Bills. This year he is Chairman of Roads and Bridges and member of Indian Affairs.

JOHN B. HOAG.

JOHN B. HOAG, the subject of this sketch, was born June 4, 1830, in the town of Root, Montgomery county. His paternal ancestors were of Quaker descent. His father, ENOCH J. HOAG, now deceased, was modeled after the old Quaker stamp, a man of the strictest integrity, and, though moving in the quiet routine of a practical farm life, he has won, by his genial nature and honesty of purpose, many warm and influential friends. He received no more than an ordinary common school education, but he possesses much native common sense and shrewdness, and is, withal, a keen observer. He is therefore well informed upon all subjects, and is a substantial farmer, and upright, reliable citizen. Widely known in Schoharie county, he enjoys the fullest confidence and

respect of his fellow citizens. He has always been a firm Democrat and active in political affairs since early youth. Residing in a district in which his party is generally in the majority, he has frequently been selected to fill public positions of trust and responsibility. In 1869 he was elected Supervisor, and re-elected in 1870. Next year he was chosen Town Clerk and served two years. He has also filled the offices of Justice of the Peace and Railroad Commissioner with ability and discretion, and on every occasion when he has placed himself before the people, he has been elected by decided majorities. Last fall the people determined to send him to the Assembly, and they gave him a majority of 154, which we believe, is above the usual Democratic preponderance in Schoharie county. Mr. HOAG's course in the Assembly, thus far, is an indication that the confidence of his constituents is not misplaced. He guards their interests closely, and though he is not known as one of the talkers of the House, he is unmistakably a worker.

AUSTIN W. HOLDEN.

We find so excellent a sketch of Dr. HOLDEN in "Cleave's Biographical Cyclopedia of Homœopathic Physicians and Surgeons," published in Philadelphia last year, that we venture to reproduce it entire, as follows:

"AUSTIN WELLS HOLDEN, of Glens Falls, was born at White Creek, Washington county, in the same State, on May 16, 1819. He is the son of JONAS and ELIZABETH HOLDEN, both of Barre, Worcester county, Mass., and lineal descendants of RICHARD HOLDEN, who with his brother, JUSTINIAN, embarked at Ipswich, England, for America, in April, 1634, in the ship 'Francis.' His paternal grandfather was engaged as a private in the battle of Bunker Hill.

"He was educated at St. Lawrence Academy, Potsdam, N. Y.; commenced the study of law at Glens Falls in 1836, but, being poor, was obliged to abandon the pursuit. From the age of sixteen to twenty-two he learned and worked at the trade of cabinet-making. Failing health, however, rendered it imperative that he should seek some other avocation. Accordingly he commenced teaching school and studying medicine at the same time, in the winter of 1842. He continued that course for two years almost uninterruptedly, and in the winter of 1844 he attended his first course of lectures. The following season he was appointed County Superintendent of Common Schools, and served with credit a term of two years, applying every leisure moment to the prosecution of his medical studies. He graduated with distinction from the Albany Medical College in January 1848.

"Dr. HOLDEN commenced practice in the 'old school,' at the village of Warrensburgh, Warren county, N. Y., in the spring following his graduation. He continued there for four years, and then removed to Glens Falls, where, in 1857, he was induced to make a trial of homœopathy, and with such eminently satisfactory results that he soon became a convert to its principles, and gradually introduced the practice among his patrons.

"With the outbreak of the rebellion, Dr. HOLDEN, stirred by the patriotic impulse that aroused the North, raised a company of volunteers, of which he was commissioned a captain, and the company, with another raised in the same village, was incorporated into the 22d Regiment New York Volunteers. Afterward it formed a part of the justly famed 'Iron Brigade,' whose fearful losses at the Second Bull Run, South Mountain, Antietam and Fredericksburgh, warranted its well-earned name. In August, 1862, at the special desire of many officers of his regiment, Dr. HOLDEN was transferred to the Medical Staff, which relation was maintained with general satisfaction until the regiment was mustered out of the service in 1863, its term of service having expired. Within less than six weeks he re-entered the army as Acting Assistant Surgeon United States Army, in which capacity he performed active duty until Lee's surrender, being stationed consecutively in the United States General Hospitals at Frederick City, Cumberland, Md., and Troy, N. Y.

"On finally quitting the army, Dr. HOLDEN returned to Glens Falls, entered again upon the practice of homœopathy, and has continued in the same up to the present time. Great

and well-deserved success has followed his efforts on behalf of the sick and suffering.

"In 1869, he was made a permanent member of the New York State Homœopathic Society, and in 1871, was elected one of the Vice-Presidents of the same. For a number of years he has been Secretary to the Northern New York Homœopathic Medical Society. He was Examining Surgeon for the Pension Bureau for three years, but, with others, was dismissed because of his being a homœopathist.

"Among the recreations of Dr. HOLDEN's life, literary and historical studies have occupied a prominent place, much of his leisure being devoted thereto. At this writing he has nearly ready for the press an elaborate history of the town in which he resides. He has for many years been a correspondent for the press, and his abilities and acquirements have been recognized by his appointment as honorary and corresponding member of several learned societies."

In addition to the above facts, it should be stated that Dr. HOLDEN was married on the 24th of April, 1851, to ELIZABETH BUELL, daughter of the late Hon. HORATIO BUELL, and sister of JAMES BUELL, President of the Importers and Traders' Bank of New York. In politics he has always been a Democrat, but never an extremist of that faith. He is strongly committed to radical temperance measures and temperance reform; and to that fact, and the further fact that he is an old and respected citizen of Warren county, and one whose integrity and ability are beyond question, is doubtless due his election in a county largely Republican. Certainly, no other man is better acquainted with the history, the resources, the wants and the interests of Warren county than he. He was elected by a majority of 62 over JOSEPH WOODWARD, the Republican candidate. In 1872, the Republican ticket received a majority of 1,000. After the election, the *Glens Falls Messenger* (Republican) said of him:

"Dr. HOLDEN is an active temperance man, of extensive knowledge, well versed in the history of this section, and we think he will take pride in working for the best interests of this county in the Legislature. He is a much better man, personally, than is usually found in the Assembly, and we

hope he is not so tainted with Democracy as to be caught in any "ring" measure."

Dr. HOLDEN has been a communicant of the Episcopal Church since 1841. He was a delegate to the Diocesan Convention which elected Bishop HORATIO POTTER, and was for many years a Warden in the parish where he resides. Being a gentleman of culture and enlarged views, Dr. HOLDEN is, in all respects, an amiable and accomplished gentleman, and his constituency has honored itself by sending him to the Assembly.

CHARLES F. HOUGHTON.

Mr. HOUGHTON represents the Second district of Steuben county. He is a young man of culture and high character, and being a successful manufacturer, he is in full sympathy with the industrial interests of the State. Though a quiet and unobtrusive member, he ably represents one of the best sections of the State in the present Legislature.

CHARLES FREDERICK HOUGHTON was born in Cambridge, Mass., May 31, 1846. He is therefore to be classed among the younger members. He was educated in the public schools at Cambridge, Mass., and at the academy at Ellington, Conn., where he underwent a preparatory course with a view of entering college. He did not go to college, however, but instead he turned his attention to manufacturing, and is now engaged in the manufacture of glass at Corning.

Mr. HOUGHTON's life has thus far been uneventful. He has always, since he reached a voting age, been an active Republican, but he never before held office. The nomination for the Assembly was unsought on his part, but he accepted the trust with a determination to do his whole duty by his constituents. He was elected by a majority of 278,

his opponent being ABRAM DUDLEY, a well known and exceedingly popular Democrat. He is a member of the Committees on Villages, Petitions of Aliens and Public Lands.

ERASTUS H. HUSSEY.

Mr. HUSSEY is a native and life-long resident of the town of Ledyard, Cayuga county, and owns a fine farm near the village of Aurora. He was born January 19, 1827, and though he has thus reached his forty-seventh year, he has never married. He has been a farmer since boyhood, and during his early years was fortunate enough to secure a good common school and academic education. Being also a good reader and keen observer, he is, in addition to being a persistent and hard-working agriculturist, a gentleman of considerable culture, and well posted upon public affairs. He is also a man of sound judgment and unusually sensible views upon all questions, and few men in his locality are more highly esteemed. The confidence felt in him by the community is perhaps sufficiently indicated by the fact that he has been regularly elected a member of the board of supervisors since the year 1867. He was elected to the Assembly last fall by a majority of 1,292, though two candidates ran against him, EFFINGHAM T. BROWN, Democrat, and WM. H. MANCHESTER, Temperance. The vote was an extraordinarily light one, and, under the circumstances, the large majority he received was exceedingly gratifying. He is to be ranked rather among the workers than among the talkers of the Assembly, and serves acceptably upon the Committees on Villages, and Trade and Manufactures.

Mr. HUSSEY has been uniformly successful in his farming operations, and is therefore in comfortable circumstances. The fact that he is a member of the Society of Friends, and

endeavors conscientiously to square his life in accordance with the precepts of that sect, is, perhaps, a sufficient indication of his personal character.

WILLARD JOHNSON.

Mr. JOHNSON is of New England parentage, his father, LOWELL JOHNSON, having been a native of Vermont, while his mother was born in Massachusetts. He was born in the town of Volney, Oswego county, on the 16th of May, 1820. He attended common school at an early age, and subsequently attended the Mexico and Cazenovia academies, thus securing an excellent education. In the year 1852, he engaged in the lake and canal transportation business at Fulton, and continued it successfully for about twelve years. Afterward he became a contractor and has completed several important works for the State and national governments, among which may be mentioned the improvement of the Mississippi river at Rock Island, and the construction of a lock in the Illinois river, which is probably the largest in the world, being 350 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 30 feet high, and capable of accommodating twelve ordinary canal boats at once. He has successfully completed contracts which amount, in the aggregate, to several millions of dollars.

Mr. JOHNSON has always been a Democrat of the old school, and for many years he has been prominent in the councils of that party. During the rebellion he was classed as a War Democrat, and gave his influence and means freely to the cause of the Union. In 1862 he was elected to the Assembly without opposition, and co-operated heartily in all the measures designed to sustain the national government in the contest which was then raging against armed treason. Subsequently he served two years on the War Committee of Oswego county. He was also a member of the Board of

Supervisors in the years 1861 and 1862. In 1860 he was a delegate to the memorable Charleston Convention, and was afterward also a delegate to the National Democratic Conventions at Chicago in 1864, in New York in 1868, and in Baltimore in 1872. During the five war years, he was a member of the State Committee. It will thus be seen that Mr. JOHNSON's political experience is extensive and varied, and there are really few men in Central New York whose counsel is held in greater estimation. He still holds to the political creed of his earlier years, and is very popular among the Democrats of Oswego, and, indeed, among men of all parties. This is shown by the fact that he was elected in 1872 by a majority of 189, over THOMAS W. GREEN, Republican, who represented the district the previous year, and re-elected last fall by the handsome majority of 747, CHARLES D. WALKUP being his opponent. Last year he served on the Committees on Roads and Bridges, Internal Affairs and Militia, and this year he is on Commerce and Navigation and Internal Affairs. He is a man of modest, unassuming deportment, and seldom addresses the House, being a man who believes in actions rather than words. His large experience, ripe judgment and active mind are of great value, however, in the practical work of legislation. He was married at the age of 27 to MARY GASPE, and as a result of his prudently managed business operations he is quite wealthy.

GRIFFITH O. JONES

Mr. JONES is of Welsh descent on both sides. His father emigrated from Wales in 1815, and his mother coming to this country a year later, they were married in 1817, settling upon a farm in Oneida county. His mother died in 1823, but his father lived until 1869. The subject of this sketch was born in the town of Steuben, Oneida county, May 25,

1818, and received a fair education in the common schools. In May, 1846, he was married to an estimable lady in Remsen, and the same year he engaged in the tanning business in the town of Russia, Herkimer county. This he followed with good success until 1860, since which time he has been engaged in farming in Oneida county.

Mr. JONES acted with the Democratic party previous to 1866, but has since been a Republican, and is not only well known throughout Oneida and Herkimer, but possesses considerable influence. He has filled the office of Justice of the Peace in both counties, having been elected in the town of Russia in 1851, 1855 and 1859, and also in the town of Floyd in 1872. His opponent in the Assembly canvass last fall was JOHN M. WHIPPLE, and he was elected, after a pretty sharp canvass, by a majority of 635.

Plain and unpretending in personal appearance, and totally devoid of any desire for notoriety, Mr. JONES is a man of strict integrity and great practical ability. He is faithful in his attendance upon legislative duties, and his moral character is above reproach. For many years he has been a consistent member of the Congregational denomination, and he aims to be just in every relation of life.

WILLIAM P. KIRK.

Mr. KIRK, the representative of the Second New York district, is a man about whom there is no nonsense in any respect. He is a plain matter-of-fact gentleman, well posted in most matters demanding the attention of the Legislature, and performs the duties which devolve upon him quietly and unassumingly. He was born in the city of New York on the 11th of August, 1833. His father and mother were both born in Ireland, though they were married in New York city, having emigrated at an early age. The father is a carpenter, and is still living in New York city at the age of seventy-four years. The subject of our sketch was educated in the

common schools of New York city, and, at the proper age, was apprenticed to a sawsmith. He followed this occupation a number of years, but he finally became a wine merchant, and is successfully engaged in that business at present. He was married, about eighteen years ago, to Miss ANNA L. QUINN, of New York city. He has always acted with the Tammany wing of the Democracy, and, being a life-long resident of New York city, he is well known in political circles. He was a Member of the Assembly of 1864, to which he was elected by a majority of 800. Last fall his majority was 673, his opponent being THOMAS WILD, a popular Republican. Aside from his legislative positions, he has never held any very prominent public office, preferring rather to do effective work in the ranks of his party. He is a Roman Catholic, and, being a man of fine traits of character, he is greatly esteemed by his associates of the New York delegation.

WILLIAM R. KNAPP.

Mr. KNAPP will doubtless be remembered by old habitues of the Capitol as the member from Rockland county in 1860. In that year he made an excellent legislative record, and Rockland honors herself by again electing him as her representative at Albany. He is the son of Col. ROBERT KNAPP, a native of Haverstraw, a veteran of the war of 1812, and a well known Rockland county farmer and officer of militia. His grandfather, LEBEUS KNAPP, served in the revolutionary army under Gen. WASHINGTON, and drew a pension up to the time of his death.

WILLIAM R. KNAPP was born in Haverstraw on the 27th of April, 1819, and is therefore now pretty well advanced in years. He received his education in common schools, securing about the average amount of learning imparted to the youth of that day. At the age of fourteen he left the farm

and entered the wholesale and retail store of BREWSTER & GURNEE as clerk, and faithfully discharged the duties of that position for four years. He then went into business for himself, and by prudence and good management he has built up a large trade, being interested in several vessels on the North River. In 1843 he was married to CHARLOTTE ROSE, at Haverstraw. They have one child. Since 1845 he has manufactured brick extensively, and the firm of W. R. KNAPP, Son & Co. has probably sold more brick in New York city than any other house in the State. As the result of his operations Mr. KNAPP is quite wealthy, owning good real estate in New York city and a beautiful residence at Stony Point on the bank of the Hudson.

Mr. KNAPP is a Democratic Liberal in a stricter sense than is usually implied by that appellation. He has always acted with the Democratic party, however, and enjoys in large measure the confidence of the Democrats of Rockland county. While he is more of a business man than a politician, he nevertheless finds time to keep close watch of passing political movements, and to occasionally take an active part. For three years previous to 1860 he represented his town in the board of Supervisors. In that year he was elected to the Assembly by 800 majority over EDWIN MARKS. Since then until his election last fall he has kept aloof from official position, though he has at different times been a delegate to Democratic State Conventions. In the late canvass he was opposed by ISAAC M. DEDERER, an influential Republican, and was successful by a majority of 610, a handsome gain over the majority given the Democratic member elected in 1872. He is a member of the Committee on Insurance.

Mr. KNAPP is in all respects a thorough business man, and entertaining as he does, liberal and enlarged views upon every question, he is the best sort of material of which to make legislatures. His record in the present House cannot be otherwise than unexceptionable. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal church at Haverstraw.

LEOPOLD C. G. KSHINKA.

Mr. KSHINKA is in every sense a self-made man. He occupies a high position in the bar of Albany county, solely as the result of his own exertions and persistent unwearied industry. He is still a young man, and has, perhaps, the most brilliant portion of his career yet before him; but his decided ability and fine, natural powers, lead us to believe that he will fully realize the anticipations of those who know him best. He was born in Zerkwitz, province of Brandenburg, Prussia, June 9, 1835. His parents, MATHAUS K. and WILHELMINA KSHINKA, emigrated to this country in 1850, and are still living on a farm in Bradford county, Pa. His father is finely educated, and for thirty years was an instructor in the provincial schools of Prussia, under a system which, in some respects, is probably the best in the world. He also took a leading part in the Revolution of 1848, and was chosen a Federal and State elector by the Liberal party.

The subject of our sketch received his early education in the Prussian common schools. During the years 1861 and 1862, he attended Fort Edward Institute, and in 1867, he graduated from the Albany Law School, being soon after admitted to the bar. Since then, he has been engaged in the practice of his chosen profession in the city of Albany, with a good and steadily increasing practice.

Upon reaching his majority, Mr. KSHINKA identified himself with the Democratic party, and has since been steadfast in his allegiance; but while he maintains his party fealty, his views in reference to all public questions are liberal and progressive, and he never permits partizan considerations to blind his sense of right and duty. He has had what may be deemed a preliminary legislative experience in the Board of Supervisors of Albany county, having been a

member of that body since the spring of 1872, representing the 10th ward of Albany city. Since he commenced his public career, the expressions of popular regard for him have been exceedingly gratifying. In 1872, when he was first chosen Supervisor, he ran largely ahead of his ticket, and in the spring of 1873, when he was re-elected, he carried his ward by a respectable majority, though it went Republican at the previous fall election. Last fall he was elected Member of Assembly from a district (the Second), which had elected Republican members for three successive years, by majorities ranging from 193 to 464. His majority over RICHARD B. ROCK, Republican, was stated in the official canvass at 444, but it was really 553, the vote of the western district of the Tenth ward having been omitted through a clerical error. The district, on a square party vote, is Democratic, and Mr. KSHINKA enjoys the honor of having reclaimed it from the enemy. He has proved himself a very active member of the Legislature, especially in looking after the interests of the city of Albany.

He was married August 18th, 1869, at Corinth, Saratoga county, to MAGGIE N. EARLY, daughter of ELIJAH EARLY, Esq. He was brought up in the Evangelical faith, and is a man of deep convictions and high moral purpose.

JEROME B. LANDFIELD.

MR. LANDFIELD'S father, CLARK LANDFIELD, was born in the town of Harvard, Delaware county, and there, also, the son first saw the light, in November, 1827. He was educated at Delhi Academy, and also in the Delaware Institute, at Franklin, and on reaching years of maturity, he entered a mercantile business at Harvard. Several years since he removed to Newark Valley, where he is now successfully

engaged in mercantile pursuits, managing, besides, an extensive tannery. He is also postmaster of that town, and for a year or two was a member of the Tioga Board of Supervisors.

In 1864, he represented Delaware county in the Assembly, serving on the Committee on Affairs of Villages, and making a creditable record. He was elected to the Assembly from Tioga county in 1872, by a majority of 711, and served acceptably on the Committees on Railroads, and Trade and Manufactures. Last fall he was re-elected by a majority of 608 over ISAAC S. STANCLIFT, Democrat. He is now a member of the important Committees on Railroads, Trade and Manufactures and State prisons. His voice is not frequently heard in debate, but he is a hard worker, and hence he renders invaluable aid in the important details of legislation.

Mr. LANDFIELD was a Whig until the party dissolved, and since then he has been an unyielding Republican. He is a man of great probity of character, and much respected in Newark Valley, where he resides.

ALEXANDER B. LAW.

The gentleman whose name heads this article is a plain, honest and substantial farmer, and ranks, in age, among the oldest men of the House. He was born in Salem, Washington county in October, 1809. His grandfather and father emigrated from the north of Ireland in the year 1769, and settled in what was then the town of New Perth, Albany county, now Salem, Washington county. They were well-to-do farmers, and the son naturally grew up to the same occupation. During his younger days he attended the common schools and the academy at Cambridge, Washington county. He therefore received a fair English education, which, however, has been well supplemented by the knowledge derivable from observation and experience.

Mr. LAW was formerly a Whig, but since the Republican party was formed, he has been an earnest and active member thereof, and wields great influence in the town where he has all his life resided. Sufficient evidence of this is, we apprehend, to be found in the fact that he has held the office of Justice of the Peace steadily, for the past twenty-nine years, having been first elected in 1845. He was also a member of the Board of Supervisors from 1861 to 1866, both years inclusive, and for four years was Chairman of the Board. In the recent Assembly canvass he received all the votes cast in the First District of Washington county, no opponent being in the field.

A Protestant in religious belief, Mr. LAW is a man of large and liberal views upon all subjects. He is also gifted with common sense and sound judgment, and, being a man of unimpeachable private character and immovable principles, he is in every respect a fit representative of such a constituency as that in the First District of Washington county.

He serves on the Committees on Roads and Bridges, Civil Divisions and Expenditures of the House.

HENRY LAWRENCE.

The First district of Columbia county is represented by a man of very decided ability and experience, in the person of Hon. HENRY LAWRENCE, of Claverack. He was born in New York city, October 15, 1825. His father, PHILIP LAWRENCE, who resided in Columbia county many years, is now dead, but his mother is still living. Young LAWRENCE obtained a fair education at the common schools, and became a marine engineer, in which occupation he has visited nearly every country on the globe. He has, therefore, seen a good deal of the world, inasmuch as he followed that pursuit about thirty years. During the last three or four years he

has been a hotel proprietor at Claverack, and may be regarded as quite comfortably off. For the past several years, since he closed his roving life, he has taken an active interest in politics, being a Democrat. He has never before held office, however. He was elected to the Assembly by 334 majority over JOHN D. LANGDON, his Republican opponent, and serves on the Committees on Expenditures of the Executive Department and Public Lands. He is not himself a member of any religious denomination, but his family are Dutch Reformed. He is quiet and unassuming in the House, but his physiognomy indicates a good deal of force of character, and he is unquestionably a man of ability.

AUSTIN LEAKE.

The Fifth district of New York, represented last year by MICHAEL NORTON, who is, at this writing, a fugitive from justice, sends this year a Republican to the Assembly. Mr. LEAKE is a sailmaker by trade, but he is now engaged in the undertaking and livery business. He was born in New York city, October 2, 1833, and having lived in the metropolis during most of his life, he is fully acquainted with its interests. Though he has enjoyed no educational opportunities other than those afforded by the common schools, he is well informed upon all subjects, and is well calculated to render efficient service in the Legislature. His district has heretofore been strongly Democratic, but he will, in no sense, misrepresent it. In the recent canvass he ran against GEORGE L. LOUTREL, the Tammany candidate, and ARTHUR J. DELANEY, the nominee of Apollo Hall, and was elected by a plurality of 806. He performs his duties quietly, yet none the less effectively, as a member of the important committees on Banks, Privileges and Elections and sub-committee of the Whole.

CYRILLO S. LINCOLN.

Being a man of acknowledged ability, sound principles and inflexible integrity, and possessing a large share of personal magnetism, Mr. LINCOLN wields an influence not inferior to that of any other member of the present Assembly. His habit of thinking and acting for himself on all important questions, at the same time maintaining an attitude of entire party fealty, and doing so with such tact and judgment as to commit no mistakes, has secured him the respect as well as the hearty esteem of friends and opponents.

Mr. LINCOLN was born in South Bristol, Ontario county, on the 18th of July, 1833. His father, LUCIUS LINCOLN, was born in Otsego county, and is still living and engaged in farming. Young LINCOLN enjoyed ample educational advantages. At the age of twelve he entered the Genesee Wesleyan Seminary, subsequently spent some time in the New York Conference Seminary, and, in 1855, entered Union College, graduating from that institution with honor in 1858. He then read law for a year or more at the office of F. L. DURAND, in Rochester, and was soon after admitted to the bar. Since then he has practiced successfully, devoting much of his time, however, to grape growing, owning one of the finest vineyards in that section of the State. In 1864, he was elected Justice of the Peace, and held the office until 1871, when he was first elected to the Assembly.

His career in the Assembly has been most creditable to his constituents and to himself. He was elected in 1871 by a majority of 510, but in 1872, his majority reached 810, and, in 1873, in a very light vote, it was 355. He has, therefore, well maintained his popularity. His recognition at Albany has also been marked. Though he had been placed on no very important committees the first year, a deserved tribute

was paid him by the House later in the session in choosing him as one of the managers in the BARNARD impeachment trial. The result of that trial is well known, and no one, with perhaps one or two exceptions, labored harder to bring it about than Mr. LINCOLN. In the last House he was Chairman of the Committee on Claims, and also a member of the Committee on Petitions of Aliens, of the Sub-Committee of the Whole, and of the special committee to investigate the affairs of the Erie Railway Company. In the present House he is Chairman of Railroads and Rules, and member of Ways and Means.

Mr. LINCOLN's Republicanism is a part of his personality. It is "dyed in the wool." Since the party was organized he has steadily acted with it, voting for FREMONT in 1856, for LINCOLN twice and for GRANT twice. He is, in fact, one of the most active and influential Republicans of Ontario county. As a public speaker he has few superiors. With a voice full and sonorous, an easy and natural manner of delivery and clear enunciation, he has no difficulty in securing the attention of the House, whatever the topic of discussion. He talks well on all subjects, and is also a clear and acute reasoner, holding, in the main, sound views on all the political, social and financial questions of the day.

Physically, Mr. LINCOLN is well built, and the embodiment of perfect health. His prepossessing countenance is a true index to the man, and harmonizes well with the broad intellectual forehead, luxuriant brown hair and clear blue eyes. The people of the Second district of Ontario are fortunate in being so well represented in the Assembly.

HORATIO S. LOCKWOOD.

Mr. LOCKWOOD comes from a district which is usually expected to send a Democrat to the Assembly, but he is one of those men whose virtues and exalted character have the effect to disarm party opposition, and who are popular with all classes, with very little regard to political affiliation. He is, however, an earnest and conscientious Republican, and fully alive, not only to the welfare of his own town and county, but to all that relates to good government in State and nation. Holding strong convictions upon the topics and issues of the time, he adheres to his party as in his view the best exponent of those convictions.

Mr. LOCKWOOD was born in Lexington, Greene county, on the 3d of September, 1815. He was the son of JOHN LOCKWOOD, a native of Connecticut, who removed to Greene county and engaged in farming, developing good business ability, and being highly esteemed as an upright man and a member and officer of the church. The son was educated in the common schools, and in the year 1866 was married, in Hunter, to Miss SARAH A. PLATT. For many years Mr. L. has been a successful merchant, being located most of the time in Hunter. For several years, also, he has been engaged in the manufacture of chairs, in partnership with J. W. MASON & Co., of New York city. He still has charge of the factory employed in that business, which is located at Hunter. For several years, he has filled the office of Assistant Collector and Assessor of Internal Revenue, being an incumbent when the latter office was abolished last year. In those important positions he performed his duties with promptness and impartiality. He has held numerous responsible stations of a local nature, though the possession of none of them was of his own seeking. During his whole business and official career he has been recognized by all who have in

any way had dealings with him as a man of unimpeachable integrity, a peacemaker when conflicting interests clashed, a friend to the laboring classes and to the poor, and in all respects a useful, honorable citizen. He has been a member and officer of the Presbyterian church for a number of years, and both as a man of business and as a Christian he has enjoyed the entire confidence of his own community, as well as of the residents of the entire county. No better proof of his hold upon the popular regard can, perhaps, be given, than the fact that he was elected to the Assembly over a popular Democrat, who was once a member of the House, by a majority of 208, though the district the previous year gave a majority of nearly 800 to the Democratic candidate, and has always been deemed strongly Democratic. This year it gave the Democratic State ticket a majority of more than 700. He serves on the Committees on Claims and Trade and Manufactures, and performs his legislative duties quietly, yet efficiently. He is a man whose vote cannot be bought, and who follows the convictions of his judgment and conscience, at whatever cost.

DOLPHUS S. LYNDE.

The son of parents in quite comfortable circumstances, Mr. LYNDE has been literally the architect of his own fortune. He was born in Antwerp, Jefferson county, July 1, 1833, and is therefore nearly forty-one years of age. His parents were of Irish and English descent. He remained with his father, doing farm work, and attending the common schools and Gouverneur Wesleyan Seminary until the age of twenty, when he married ESTHER S. CAUL, who proved herself indeed "a help-meet" to him. His father was worth a fine property at that time, yet he declined to extend to the young couple any pecuniary aid whatever. He argued that he had earned

the money himself, and, as he might need it, he proposed to take care of it while he lived. The newly-married pair moved into a board shanty, and supported themselves by keeping boarders at a dollar and a half each per week, the plucky husband earning in the mean time about \$20 a month by driving an ox team and carting and piling lumber. He carried the first fifty pounds of flour for the new household a distance of two miles past his father's house, although at the same time there were two hundred bushels of wheat in the old gentleman's barn.

The somewhat singular conduct of his parent aroused all the spirit in the young man's breast. When the next spring arrived he bought a farm and a stock of cows on credit, and sold them again in the fall, realizing \$1,000 above the debt he had incurred. This fortunate speculation was the beginning of a successful career. Placing his money at interest, he kept a set of books during the next two years for JAMES STERLING, an Antwerp iron manufacturer, at an annual salary of \$500, and the use of a house and garden. At the end of three years he had doubled his thousand dollars. He then moved to Hermon, St. Lawrence county, where he has since been engaged in selling goods, milling, buying and selling cattle and real estate, and similar occupations. He also aided to organize the Cooper's Falls Iron Works, and was one of the stockholders of the corporation, but sold his interest before the works were finally completed.

He has been uniformly successful in all his ventures, so that he is now the possessor of a handsome fortune, and he filially attributes his success in life entirely to what he deemed, at the time, very harsh conduct on the part of his respected parent, which, however, had the intended effect to stimulate him to make extraordinary exertions to place himself in an independent position. However we may regard the course of the elder LYNDE in the abstract, we must admit that he correctly estimated his son's character, and did what in the end proved to be the best for him.

Since Mr. LINDE has resided in St. Lawrence county he has been prominently identified with its political history. Previous to 1864 he was a Democrat, but in that year, in common with many Democrats, he took a new departure, and cast his vote for the LINCOLN electoral ticket. Since that time, he has invariably acted with the Republican party. As a member of that party he represented the town of Hermon in the St. Lawrence Board of Supervisors, for three years, commencing in 1868. In 1870 he was appointed a Notary Public. Four times in succession he has been elected to the Assembly from the Second district of St. Lawrence, the last time by a majority of 1,186, and his straightforward, honest course in that body has been a source of gratification, alike to his constituents and the State at large, in which he is now extensively known. During his legislative service he has been a member of the Committees on Internal Affairs, Railroads, Engrossed Bills, and State Prisons, and Chairman of Internal Affairs during three terms, including the present one.

JAMES MACKIN.

Mr. MACKIN, a man of prepossessing appearance and pleasant address, represents the First district of Dutchess county for the third term. He is a lineal descendant of genuine Irish stock, though his parents were natives of this county, his father having been born in New York, and his mother in Newburgh. They both died, however, within three years of each other, before young MACKIN had reached his eighth year, and he was left entirely without means. Compelled thus to struggle for his own support, from early youth, Mr. MACKIN is necessarily one of those practical self-made men, who contribute so largely to the prosperity of the country.

Born in Newburgh, Orange county, on the 25th of December, 1823, he was educated in the common schools of Newburgh and Fishkill, and has spent the greater portion of his life in the latter town, where he has had the care of a large estate. During the years 1860, 1861 and 1862, he conducted a mercantile establishment at Fishkill quite successfully. The responsibilities of the estate mentioned were, however, sufficient to give him ample occupation, and he retired from business. Subsequently, he became President of the First National Bank of Fishkill Landing, and still holds that position.

Mr. MACKIN has mingled largely in public and political life. He was an active and influential Whig of the Free Soil stamp, until the party was dissolved. He was not only a delegate to the convention which gave form and cohesion to the Republican organization, but, previous to 1866, he was several times a delegate to the conventions of that party, and has held a number of public positions. For four years he was postmaster at Fishkill, holding the position under the appointment of President FILLMORE. In 1862 President LINCOLN appointed him United States Assessor for the 12th (now the 13th) district, and he held the office two years and a half. Four times he was elected Supervisor of his town, and once he was chosen President of the Board. In 1859 he represented his Assembly district in the Legislature, serving on the Committees on Claims, and Internal affairs of Towns and Counties.

During the past six or seven years, Mr. MACKIN has acted with the Democratic party, and was elected to the Assembly in 1872 as a member of that political organization, receiving a majority of 828 over EDWARD M. GORING. Last fall he was re-elected by a majority of 830 over SIDNEY E. BARTRAM. He served, last year, on the Committees on Railroads and Public Printing, and this year is on Railroads, Villages and Militia.

Though not greatly given to debate, Mr. MACKIN possesses

excellent qualifications for legislative position. He enjoys a large degree of popularity, both in private and public life, and there are few men in his section of the State more deserving of public confidence. He was married, in July, 1858, to Miss SARAH E. WILTSIE, a very intelligent and accomplished lady, and a daughter of JAMES WILTSIE, an old and respected citizen of Fishkill. She was a devout member of the Reformed Church, where Mr. MACKIN also worshiped. Her death took place in 1862, and her place in the family circle has never been filled. Mr. M. has been reasonably successful in all his business undertakings, and may be regarded as in quite comfortable circumstances.

JOHN MANLEY.

The member from the Second district of Cattaraugus county is serving his second term. He is well known throughout the State as a sound and reliable business man, as well as an earnest and conscientious Republican. Born in Norridgewock, Me., in the year 1824, his early years were mainly spent upon the farm of his father, AMASA MANLEY. He attended school regularly, however, and obtained a good English education. In 1847 he married Miss ELIZABETH BIRTUES, at Augusta, Me., and soon afterward removed to this State. He settled at Little Valley, Cattaraugus county, where he in time became the owner of a large landed property. For a number of years he has been engaged in farming, and gradually became one of the most prosperous, active and influential citizens of that section. His real estate operations in Little Valley have been quite extensive, and to his enterprise and public spirit is due many of the attractions of that thriving village.

Mr. MANLEY has been very prominently identified with politics during most of his life. In his early days he was a

Whig, and as such he voted for Generals TAYLOR and SCOTT for the Presidential office. Since the Whig party dissolved he has been an unswerving Republican, taking a leading part in the councils of that party, both in his own county and in the State at large. He has also held several important public positions, in which he invariably exhibited marked ability and devotion to duty, as well as the sternest integrity. His first entrance into public life was in 1860, when he represented Little Valley in the Cattaraugus Board of Supervisors. In 1870 he was again chosen a member of the Board, and still serves in that capacity, being re-elected every year by a nearly unanimous vote. In 1861 he was appointed Clerk in the Department of the Interior, under Secretary Smith, and served four years. In 1864 he was detailed as a special Indian Agent within the New York agency, and it was made his duty to pay over the moneys and annuities due from the United States under treaty stipulations. In the performance of that duty he visited the several reservations, and conferred freely with the Indians in reference to their educational, agricultural and industrial condition, and also in regard to a difficulty which had previously arisen between the special Commissioners of the Government and some of the representatives of the Six Nations. In March, 1865, he was appointed Military Secretary on the Staff of Governor FENTON, and held the position until May, 1866. Since that time, however, he has been an uncompromising opponent of Mr. FENTON.

During the war, Mr. MANLEY was active in his efforts to mitigate the sufferings of the Union soldiers in the hospital and in the camp. During his residence in Washington he was active in their behalf, directing his efforts, of course, specially to those from his own county. At the close of the war, he received several handsome testimonials, in recognition of the service he rendered in this respect, among which was an elegant gold watch and chain, presented by the members of the Sixty-fourth New York Volunteers.

That Mr. MANLEY has gained considerable eminence as an agriculturist, is shown by the fact that he served seven years as President of the Cattaraugus County Agricultural Society, aiding very materially in bringing it to its present prosperous condition. He is now a member of the Executive Committee of the New York State Agricultural Society.

In the canvass of 1872, Mr. MANLEY was met by a storm of detraction and slander, and herculean efforts were made to defeat him; but, after an exciting contest, he was successful, notwithstanding the large "Liberal" defection in his district, by a majority of 535. His majority in 1873 was 484.

He is a plain, substantial-looking gentleman, in the full flush of rosy health, and possesses a nature well calculated to win the regard of his fellows. His religion, as he himself expresses it, consists in faith in the Supreme Being, and an endeavor to do right in all things. A knowledge of the man impresses one with the belief that he is quite successful in carrying that sort of religion into his daily life.

KNOX McAFEE.

Mr. McAFEE represents the Eleventh New York district, and is a young New Yorker of unblemished character. He is of Scotch descent, both his parents, WILLIAM and ELIZABETH McAFEE, being also residents of the metropolis. Mr. McAFEE was born in New York city, January 3, 1843, and has resided there all his life. Aside, therefore, from his unquestioned ability and his qualifications in other respects, he is peculiarly well fitted to represent the great city in the Legislature. Mr. McAFEE is finely educated, having graduated from the college of the city of New York in the class of 1862, receiving the degree of A. B. Though a man of

much literary culture and fine taste, his inclination has not led him to adopt either of the professions. During the past few years he has been in the real estate business, in which he has been reasonably successful.

During the war, Mr. MCAFEE organized a company for the 12th New York Infantry, and was commissioned as Captain April 29, 1862, being at the time but nineteen years of age. He proceeded to the front with the regiment. He was, however, taken prisoner at Harper's Ferry, and paroled. On being exchanged early in 1863, he immediately returned to service with his regiment, and was promoted to the rank of Major and afterward to that of Lieutenant-Colonel, remaining with the Twelfth regiment during its term of service. His war record is, therefore, in the highest degree honorable. When he returned home he brought with him a youthful "contraband," a bright, young fellow, who became devotedly attached to him. Col. MCAFEE reciprocated the attachment by giving him a thorough education in New York city, and he is now filling a position of responsibility, being respected and trusted by all who know him.

In politics, Mr. MCAFEE has always been a Republican. He was never before a candidate for any elective office, but during four years he held the position of Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue of the eighth district of New York, and for three years he was a United States Ganger in the Custom House. He resigned both positions, however, preferring the emoluments of a business rather than an official career. He was greatly disinclined to accept the Assembly nomination, which had been repeatedly tendered by his friends, but, at the earnest solicitation of those friends, he finally consented to accept what was to him a personal sacrifice. His majority over the combined Tammany and Apollo Hall vote was 896, his opponent being OLIVER P. BUEL. Such majorities are not frequently vouchsafed to Republican Assembly candidates in the metropolis, and it indicates the regard in which he is held by the voters of the eleventh

district. Mr. M. serves on the Committees on Cities and Militia.

Adhering to the Presbyterian faith—the faith of his fathers—Mr. MCAFEE is, in all respects, a man of integrity and rectitude. His legislative action is, therefore, governed by principle, and his vote on every question may be regarded as the expression of what he conscientiously believes to be right. His course in the House is marked by a quiet and reserved demeanor, in strong contrast with the volubility of some other members of that body, but his keen black eye intently watches the progress of legislation, and he is able to vote understandingly when his name is called.

Mr. MCAFEE was married on the 8th of June, 1870, to Miss OLLIE V. KIRBY, of New York.

JOHN MCGROARTY.

Mr. MCGROARTY represents the district which has, for several years, sent us the veteran JACOBS, who is promoted to the Senate. He is a well-known politician of the Ninth Ward, Brooklyn; and though he is comparatively a young man, he has mingled considerably in the local politics of the City of Churches, where he has resided all his life. He was born in Brooklyn on the 14th of February, 1838, and educated in the public schools of that city. He learned the trade of a hatter, and followed that occupation some years, but of late he has been engaged in the real estate business, and, pecuniarily, is quite well off. For the last six years he has been an Alderman for the Ninth Ward of Brooklyn.

He does not take a very active part in the Assembly, so far, at least, as the debates are concerned, but his name is attached to a good many measures designed to advance the interests of his constituents, and he will make a creditable record. His majority over JOHN OAKLEY, the Republican candidate in the late canvass, was 714, a gain of nearly 150 over Mr. JACOBS' last majority.

DANIEL P. McQUEEN.

We have been accustomed to couple the name of the historic county up the Mohawk with venerable associations, but the fact that she is represented on the floor of the Assembly by one of her younger sons, is not so incongruous as it might appear at first thought, inasmuch as she has of late succeeded, in a figurative sense, in transfusing a good deal of youthful blood into her veins.

Mr. McQUEEN, the member from Schenectady, is of Scotch descent, and was born in Stockbridge, Mass., July 6, 1843. His father, WALTER McQUEEN, a practical machinist, removed to Schenectady about twenty-five years ago, and became Superintendent of the well-known Schenectady locomotive works, a position which he has held until the present time. Young McQUEEN received a good common-school education, and was brought up in the locomotive works, becoming, like his father, a practical machinist and locomotive engineer. Five years since, he was married to Miss S. M. MYERS, of Toledo, Ohio.

He had never been particularly prominent as a politician until his first election to the Assembly in 1872, when he was induced, somewhat against his wishes, at first, to become a candidate, and was nominated in the convention by acclamation. The Democrats nominated THOMAS B. MITCHELL, a man of considerable ability, but Mr. McQUEEN was elected by a majority of 489. Last fall he was re-nominated against ARTHUR W. HUNTER, a well-known and highly esteemed Democrat, and re-elected by a majority of 154. He is Chairman of Federal Relations, and member of Public Printing.

Mr. McQUEEN is a man of action rather than words, and is wide awake in every sense of the term. Favored as he is with robust health, a superb physique and sound common sense, his future is full of promise.

THEODORE N. MELVIN.

MR. MELVIN, though new to the Assembly, is rapidly taking rank as one of its ablest members. He is the son of the late SOLOMON MELVIN, a prominent lawyer of New York city, and Captain of the Old Light Guard. His father and grandfathers were all natives of New York city.

THEODORE NOBLE MELVIN was born in New York city on the 1st of December, 1846, and has therefore just passed his twenty-eighth year. His education was obtained mostly in the common schools, but he spent some time at Columbia College, not, however, remaining long enough to graduate. Subsequently he studied law with Hon. J. S. LAWRENCE in New York city, and was admitted to the bar in 1868. At the present time he is successfully practicing law in Brooklyn, being in partnership with ex-Judge W. HENRY GALE.

MR. MELVIN has been known as an active Democrat for several years past. In 1872 he stumped the lower counties of this State for GREELEY and KERNAN, and performed effective work in that campaign. In the late canvass he had the regular Republican candidate and two Democratic stump candidates against him, in a district (the Fourth of Kings) which elected a Republican the previous year, but he received a plurality of 322, and polled nearly as many votes as the three together.

Though Mr. MELVIN's voice is somewhat gruff and coarse in tone, he is an excellent public speaker, and he has shown his ability in debate on several occasions during the present session, while he is at all times an active and attentive member of the House.

He is a member of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in which he was brought up from youth, and is still enjoying the "freedom of single blessedness."

EDMUND MILLER.

The county of Chemung is represented for the second time by Mr. EDMUND MILLER, of Elmira. He was born in Southport, November 1, 1808. His father was of German descent, and his mother was a native of Connecticut. In 1783, during the French and Indian war, his grandfather was taken prisoner by the Indians in Northampton county, Pa., and brought to the head of Seneca lake, where he escaped and returned home. He subsequently settled in Southport, and his son, the father of EDMUND, who was a farmer, lived and died upon the farm now occupied by the latter.

Mr. MILLER's education was confined to the common schools, but those advantages were very thoroughly improved. He was married October 30th, 1835, to PAMELIA DU BOIS, a daughter of JOHN DU BOIS, of Tioga county. Mr. MILLER's occupation is mainly that of a farmer, though he has also been connected with other pursuits, and has at times dealt largely in cattle and lumber.

He was a Member of the Assembly of 1868, being elected by about 250 majority over GEORGE W. BUCK, and served as chairman of the Committee on Claims and member of Agriculture. At that time he was known as a careful and sagacious legislator. He has also held all the various offices in his town, and has been a member of the Board of Supervisors for many years up to the last town meeting, when he declined a renomination. He has always been true to the Democratic party and of great service to it. His opponent last fall was WILLIAM ARMSTRONG, Republican, whom he defeated by 214 majority, the Republican majority the previous year being 350.

He is liberal in his religious views and is a man of decided convictions and upright character.

WARNER MILLER.

Though Mr. MILLER made his first appearance in public official life as a member of the present Legislature, he leaped at once into a prominent position in that body, and wields a large influence. He possesses marked ability, and is extremely clear-headed and practical in his ideas. Accustomed to think and act for himself upon every question, his views are characterized by originality and boldness, and he does not hesitate to back up his opinions by arguments which are couched in the plainest and most effective language. Being an extensive manufacturer, whatever tends to advance the industrial interests of the State naturally enlists his warm sympathy, but at the same time his efforts in that direction are inspired by no selfish considerations. The welfare of the community at large is uppermost in his mind. He is also a warm friend of the common schools of the State, and is the steadfast opponent of any efforts to encourage other educational systems at the expense of that which, in its scope and mission, is peculiarly adapted to the whole people. In the present session Mr. MILLER has attained prominence because of the proposition initiated by himself to strike from the general appropriation bill a clause giving \$125,000 to the Academies of the State. He made a powerful speech in advocacy of his motion to strike out, and carried the House with him by a decided majority, but when the bill reached the Senate, the clause was inserted after protracted discussion. He gives to the consideration of every question great earnestness and deep thought, and his speeches are always direct and to the point.

Mr. MILLER was born in Oswego county, August 12, 1838. He is of German descent, his ancestors having emigrated to this country previous to the Revolutionary war. His great grandfather was a colonel in that memorable conflict, and his dwelling, which is still standing at White Plains, was occupied

by Gen. WASHINGTON as his headquarters. ABRAHAM MILLER, an uncle of the present Assemblyman, represented Westchester county for fourteen successive years in the Assembly.

Young MILLER was fortunate in the educational opportunities he enjoyed. He passed through the usual common-school experience in early youth, and when he reached a proper age, entered Union College at Schenectady. From that institution he graduated in 1860, standing well with his class. After graduating, he taught for a short period at Fort Edward Institute. After the war broke out he enlisted as a private in the third New York Cavalry, and was afterward promoted to the grade of Sergeant-Major. He saw much arduous service in Virginia under SHERIDAN and others, and at the battle of Winchester he was taken prisoner by "STONEWALL" JACKSON'S brigade, and was paroled on the field. At this time he was acting Lieutenant. After receiving an honorable discharge from the army, Mr. MILLER spent some time in Europe, gaining important knowledge concerning the manufacture of paper. On his return he established himself in the paper business at Herkimer, and is still carrying on that branch of manufacture successfully, employing a large number of hands. In July, 1864, he was married at Gloversville, N. Y., to CAROLINE CHURCHILL.

Mr. MILLER is known throughout Herkimer county as an active Republican, but he has never before accepted office. Of refined tastes, rare culture, and possessing excellent social qualities, he is deservedly popular. He is also widely respected and honored for his high character and strict principles. No man in the present Assembly is more entirely unsuspected, or free from contaminating influences than the member from Herkimer. He is a consistent member of the Methodist church, and in his private life is entirely without reproach. In the House he is a member of the Committees on Insurance, Engrossed Bills, and Sub-Committee of the Whole, and takes rank among the most effective of the working members.

JONATHAN B. MOREY.

Mr. MOREY, the very capable member from Livingston county, has twice before been a member of Assembly from that county, in the years 1864 and 1865. He is, therefore, experienced in the ways of legislation, as well as thoroughly acquainted with the needs of his constituency. He was born at Dansville, where he still resides, on the 26th of November, 1836. His father, MILTON MOREY, is a native of this State, and was formerly a tanner. At present he is engaged in farming at Yonckton, Dacotah Territory. His mother, whose maiden name was EVE BAMBART, died some years ago. She also was a native of this State.

Young MOREY, though brought up on a farm, managed to obtain a very thorough common-school education. So far advanced was he after teaching a couple winters, that in September, 1857, he was sufficiently qualified to enter the sub-senior class in the State Normal School at Albany, and, in July following, he graduated with distinction. The three years subsequent to his graduation he spent in teaching, meeting with a success far beyond his anticipations. His fitness for this honorable occupation was fully demonstrated by his brief career as an educator, but he chose to follow a different path. In May, 1861, he was married to Miss LAURA SWEET, and from that time until about three years ago, he followed the not less honorable pursuit of farming. Since 1871, he been engaged in the nursery business, which is his present occupation. In all his efforts Mr. MOREY has developed a high order of ability, and shown that he possesses sufficient judgment and native shrewdness to enable him to fill successfully almost any position in life.

Always a Republican of the straightest sort, Mr. MOREY has been active in politics since a very early age, and, being a life-long resident of Dansville, he enjoys the unlimited

confidence and esteem of the citizens of that locality. Being a leading Republican, and a man whose integrity and ability are beyond question, he has frequently been called upon to fill important offices. In 1863, he was nominated with great unanimity by his party convention to represent his county in the Assembly, and was elected by a majority of 16 over ALONZO BRADNER, a popular Democrat. The next year he was re-elected by a majority of 98 over GEORGE D. LORD. Last fall his majority over HEZEKIAH ALLEN was 1197. These figures need no comment. They show, conclusively, that Mr. MOREY has grown rapidly in popular regard. Besides his Assembly service, Mr. MOREY has served as President of the village of Dansville, an office to which he was elected in 1871, and was also a delegate to the Republican national convention, held in Philadelphia in 1872. While his career in the Assembly is characterized by no extraordinary features, his record at the close of the session will compare well with that of any other member. He fully appreciates the duties which devolve upon him, and performs those duties with fidelity and efficiency. He is a member of no church, but makes it a rule to help all of them financially.

FRANCIS MURRAY.

Mr. MURRAY is a sharp and active young politician of the metropolis, representing the Twelfth District of New York. This is his first appearance in legislative life, but he shows ability and aptitude in the performance of his duties, and is popular with all. He was elected by the Tammany Democrats and Liberals, receiving a plurality of 551, the opposing candidates being C. H. SOUTHWORTH, Republican, and JOSEPH A. LYONS, Apollo Hall. Though quite a young man, he is quite well known in New York city, and is a Clerk of the

.

Second District Court. He was born in New York city, April 22, 1846; his parents, who are still living, being natives of Ireland. Educated in the common schools of the metropolis, he is well posted in all that goes to qualify a man for active life. In religious faith he is Episcopalian, and in private as well as public life he is known as an estimable and upright citizen.

JOHN NICE.

MR. NICE is a resident of Grand Island, and was elected from the Fourth district of Erie county. He was born October 15, 1813, in Kindenheim, Rhenish Bavaria. He therefore ranks among the older members of the House. His parents, who were also born in Kindenheim, emigrated to this country in 1836, settling upon a farm in Erie county.

Young NICE was educated in the common schools and brought up on the paternal farm, which he continued to manage for some years after his father died. Finally, he became a heavy dealer in wood and timber, and gave up agriculture.

He has generally felt a warm interest in politics, and exercises considerable influence among his countrymen, who constitute a large proportion of the population of that section of the State. He has been a Republican since the party was organized, and before that was a Whig. His almost life-long residence in Erie county, and his active participation in its politics, have rendered him more than ordinarily deserving of the numerous public positions he has been called to fill. He has served four times on the Board of Supervisors, in 1853, 1854, 1860 and 1864, and each time he bore himself with credit. During three years—from 1861 to 1863—he was County Superintendent of the Poor. In 1872 he was selected

to represent his district in the Assembly, and was chosen by a majority of 754, although another German, GEORGE ZENT, ran against him. Last fall he was re-elected by a majority of 418 over HENRY B. ELDRED.

Mr. NICE is a man of robust, well-developed physique. His countenance indicates much decision of character, blended with kindness of heart. He is one of the quiet members, but he watches closely the progress of legislation. He professes the Protestant religion, was married in 1843 to Miss MARY ANN PFIZENMEIER, and is greatly respected in the community where he resides.

JAMES M. OAKLEY.

Mr. OAKLEY is now serving his fourth term as the representative from the Second district of Queens county, and ranks, in point of continuous service, as the oldest Democratic member of the present Legislature. He was born in New York city, on the 19th of June, 1839, received a thorough academic education, and for several years was engaged in the buying and selling of real estate. Latterly he has, in a measure, retired from active business. He now resides at Jamaica, Queens county, where he is very popular among all classes.

Mr. OAKLEY has mingled considerably in politics, and enjoys the confidence of his party in very large measure. He was a Republican previous to 1864, but in that year he voted for Gen. McCLELLAN, and he has since been steadily identified with the Democratic party. No other man in his district ever had the fortune to be elected to the Assembly four times in succession. In the canvass of 1872 extraordinary efforts were made to defeat him, but he received a majority of 141 over THEODORE J. COGSWELL, Republican, and was the

only Democrat elected in Queens county. His majority last fall was 895, HENRY C. JOHNSON running against him. Mr. OAKLEY is a man of unusually prepossessing appearance and genial manners. Well posted in the routine of legislation, though not a great talker, he is an efficient and valuable member, and much esteemed by all so fortunate as to possess his friendship.

He has served on the Committees on Roads and Bridges, Bauks, Militia, and Sub-Committee of the Whole, and this year he is a member of Commerce and Navigation, Public Printing and Sub-Committee of the Whole.

Last year his seat was contested by Mr. COGSWELL, but the committee unanimously decided in favor of Mr. OAKLEY, after a thorough investigation.

THOMAS O'CALLAGHAN.

The gentleman representing the Nineteenth district of New York possesses many excellent traits of character, and enjoys a wide popularity among the working classes of the metropolis. He was born in county Cork, Ireland, in the month of March, 1828. His father, now deceased, was a respectable, but hard-working mechanic, and was considered the best scholar in the south of Ireland, his mind leaning toward mathematics. It is said of him that he solved the problem of perpetual motion, but his health failing, he was compelled to abandon the effort to put his discovery to practical use. THOMAS was educated at home by private teachers, and also spent some time in public schools. He learned his father's trade, that of a builder. Coming to this country at the age of 21, he at once established himself in New York, and conducted business as a contractor and builder up to the year 1862, a period of twenty-six years. As a result, he is now

the possessor of a handsome competence, earned by his own industry.

Mr. O'CALLAGHAN has been a Democrat all his life, and up to the re-organization of the Tammany society he was inflexibly opposed to that powerful influence in New York politics. Under the new *regime*, however, he is known as a Tammany Democrat. In the years 1857 and 1858, he held the office of Collector of the Revenue, and it is worthy of note that in the settlement of his accounts with the government at the close of his term, there was a difference against him of precisely \$1, though very large sums passed through his hands, indicating, we should say, pretty honest book-keeping on his part. In 1865 he was elected Assistant Alderman of his ward, receiving 2,500 majority over all his opponents. He has lived in the district he represents nineteen years, and is a heavy real estate owner therein. He has been especially active during several years in providing homes for workingmen, on easy terms of payment. In this way he has disposed of extensive tracts of land in the upper part of the city. He has thus conferred great benefit upon the industrial classes, and by public-spirited liberality, rendered himself exceedingly popular. His instincts and sympathies are all with the people, and opposed to aristocratic monopolies. In the recent canvass he was elected by a majority of 390, over ALEXANDER MARTIN, who was supported by the Republicans and Apollo Hall Democrats. In 1872 he was also a candidate for the Assembly, but was defeated by the Republican candidate, who received a plurality of 348.

JOHN J. PARRY.

JOHN J. PARRY, representing the Third district of Oneida county, may be regarded as one of the "solid men" of that county, in a physical as well as financial and social sense. He is, we should judge, one of the heaviest men in the House, and is a splendid picture of vitality and health. He was born in Trenton, Oneida county, on the 4th of September, 1827, and is the son of JOHN J. PARRY, a native of Merionethshire, North Wales, who was a farmer both in Wales and in this country, and died in Oneida county in 1864, at an advanced age. Our subject was twice married, being united to SARAH M. WILBER at Hamilton, N. Y., June 27, 1855. Her death occurred December 9, 1863, and he was married to CAROLINE L. CADWELL, at Rome, on the 17th of February, 1870.

MR. PARRY received a good academic education, and during his busy life he has been engaged in several active occupations. He is a master mason, builder and contractor, but is also largely engaged in the manufacture of brick, lime and plaster, and also of straw wrapping paper. In all his business undertakings he displays the qualities of energy and persistence in an unusual degree, and in all of them, we believe, he has been successful. At all events he is in comfortable circumstances as the result of his exertions, and that is usually regarded as the test of success.

In politics MR. PARRY is a Republican, and he has been an active worker in that party since its organization. He has not always remained in the ranks, however, though never a seeker after political preferment. In the case of men of his abilities and standing it is usually the office that seeks the man. During nine years commencing January 1, 1858, he filled the office of County Treasurer of Oneida, and it may be remarked, in view of the era of defalcation now passing

over the land, that not a dollar of the hundreds of thousands which passed through his hands was unaccounted for. He was also Assessor of Internal Revenue during the three years preceding the abolition of the office in 1873. In all the public positions in which he has been placed, he has ever shown a conscientious regard for the interests of the public, and an ability fully equal to every duty he has been called upon to perform.

He was elected to the Assembly by a majority of 284 over HARVEY S. BEDELL, and serves on the Committees on State Prisons, Civil Divisions and Engrossed Bills.

In religious belief he is a Presbyterian, and in his social relations he is genial, kind-hearted and conscientious, possessing the respect and confidence of his fellow-citizens.

MATTHEW PATTEN.

Mr. PATTEN represents the Sixth New York District, and is an extremely popular young Democrat of the Thirteenth Ward. He was born in New York city on the 15th of February, 1833. His father, MARTIN PATTEN, now deceased, was a sawyer by occupation, and a native of Ireland. The subject of our sketch was educated in the public schools during his early years; when old enough, however, he was apprenticed to a boat-builder, and learned the trade in all its branches. As soon as he was out of his time he went to Savannah, Ga. He arrived there at three o'clock in the morning, and before seven o'clock he had engaged a small shop along shore, and started business. He remained in Savannah with the exception of an interval of time spent in New York, between two and three years. He finally returned to New York, and permanently established himself in the

metropolis. After a few years he abandoned boat-building, and has since been a ship-caulker. About twenty-two years ago he was married to MARY C. HINCKLEY, also of New York. On the 7th of September, 1863, Mr. PATTEN was commissioned Second-Lieutenant in the 93d Regiment of the New York Volunteers by Governor Seymour, but he was not sworn in until February 2d, 1864, and after a brief period of active service he resigned in consequence of ill-health.

Mr. PATTEN has always been known as a consistent and active Democrat, of the Tammany persuasion. He has not been in the habit of seeking office, but he has several times held responsible positions in the gift of his party. In 1863 he was a health warden, and about that time, also, he was nominated for school trustee, but declined the honor. In 1869 he was Clerk in the Surrogate's Court. Every year, for several years past, he has been regularly offered the Assembly nomination by the Sixth District convention, but until last fall he persisted in declining the honor. The pressure became so strong that he felt compelled to accept, and the fact that he was elected by a majority three times greater than that usually given in his district, indicates better than any words of ours, what the people think of his merits. Two candidates were in the field against him, DANIEL F. CROWLEY, Republican, and EDWARD A. BLAKE, Apollo Hall, but he was successful by a plurality of 1,541.

Mr. PATTEN is quite a favorite among those who know him. He is a gentleman of social instincts and agreeable manners, in the full vigor of manhood, possessing fine personal qualities, agreeable, courteous, and refined, thoroughly posted in all that pertains to his duties, and may be regarded as one of the most efficient members of the New York delegation.

ELAM PERSONS.

Mr. PERSONS, who represents the First district of Jefferson county, was born in Somers, Tolland county, Connecticut, August 2, 1809. His father, SAMUEL PERSONS, was also a native of Connecticut, but he removed to New York State a few years after his marriage, and died in 1859 at the age of 92. Mr. PERSONS was educated in the common schools of this State, and learned the trade of a wheelwright, which he followed until about the year 1852, when he purchased a farm in the town of Ellisburgh, and has managed it up to the present time with a remarkable degree of success. At an early age he became identified with the old Whig party, and steadily adhered to its fortunes until it was dissolved; since that event he has as steadily acted with the Republican party, taking a very active part in the details of local organization, being, in fact, the pillar of the Republican party in his section. His first advent in public affairs was in 1847, when he was made Collector of the town of Ellisburgh, and served one year. In 1862 he was elected Highway Commissioner, and remained in office continuously for nine years. In the fall of 1872 his friends and neighbors determined upon his promotion, and after receiving the unanimous nomination of his Assembly district convention, he was elected by the flattering majority of 1,587, over ALEXANDER DICKINSON, a Liberal Republican supported by Democrats. Last fall he was elected over GEORGE W. GREEN by a majority of 720. Mr. PERSONS has been married twice, his first wife being ELIZA McNITT, whom he married in 1833, and his second, CHLOE E. KETCHUM, married in 1855, and still living. Mr. PERSONS is a plain, blunt man of action, with kindly disposition and pleasant manners. In religious faith he is evangelical. He is kind and charitable to the deserving poor, temperate and virtuous in his habits, and frugal and indus-

trious in his mode of life. During his career in the Legislature he has expended very little energy in words, but is always in his seat, and performs his legislative duty with diligence and judgment.

NATHAN D. PETTY.

Mr. PETTY is a prosperous and influential lawyer of Riverhead, Suffolk county. This is his first experience in the Assembly, but he is well known to the bar of the State, and to the entire community in his section, as a man of splendid ability and a wide-awake politician. He was born at Goodground, Suffolk county, on the 6th of January, 1842, and is therefore still quite a young man. His parents, CHARLES and HARRIET PETTY, are both living. His ancestors were American for two or three generations back, but they were originally English in both branches. His father is a farmer, and owns a valuable estate at Goodground. In 1857 young PETTY entered Sanbornton Bridge Seminary, N. H., and remained one year. Afterward he spent a term at Fort Edward Institute, and also a year at Eastman's Business College in Poughkeepsie, and deeming himself fully qualified, he entered Princeton College in 1860, graduating therefrom in June, 1865. In 1864, while a student at Princeton, he obtained leave of absence from the Faculty, and stumped the States of New York and New Jersey in the Presidential canvass, making numerous exceedingly effective speeches for the Republican cause. He has also spoken in most of the campaigns since that time, and in this respect his service to the party has been invaluable. After graduating from Princeton with high honors, Mr. PETTY entered the Albany Law School, from which he graduated in the following year, and was admitted to the bar of the State, in May, 1866.

He commenced practicing at Goodground the same year, but that locality not affording sufficient field for his talents, he removed to Riverhead, his present place of residence, in 1868. He has been eminently successful in his profession, and is now enjoying a large and constantly increasing practice.

Mr. PETTY has been a Republican all his life, and from a very early age was actively engaged in politics. Never but once, however, has he held public office previous to his election to the Assembly. In 1869 he was appointed Assistant Assessor of Internal Revenue for Suffolk, and held the position until May, 1873, when the office was abolished. In the late canvass he ran against WILSON J. TERRY, the Democratic nominee, and EDWARD Y. REEVE, Prohibition, and was elected by what was, in proportion to the votes polled, the largest majority ever given to a candidate in Suffolk county. His majority over TERRY was 1,285, and over both TERRY and REEVE, 1,199. The total vote was 6,385. The Republican majority in the district the previous year was 1,302, but the total vote was 8,390. The fact indicates clearly the estimation in which Mr. PETTY is held by his constituents.

Mr. PETTY's personal appearance is very striking, and, indeed, he may be regarded as one of the good-looking Members of the House. His finely proportioned form, pale, but expressive countenance, well moulded features, and coal-black eyes and hair, make up an outward individuality which would attract attention anywhere. He is also an excellent speaker, and, whether it be on the political stump, in a court of law or on the floor of the Assembly Chamber, he is equally at home in the delivery of those short and pointed speeches which seem to exactly cover the point at issue, and carry conviction with them. His language is invariably chaste and well chosen, and his views are generally sound. His oratorical efforts are therefore quite effective. He is not, however, noted for "much speaking," and when he does rise to address the House, it is usually upon the spur or inspiration of the moment.

In religious faith and conviction, Mr. PETTY is a Congregationalist. His private character is, in all respects, irreproachable, and he is greatly respected in the community where he resides. He was married June 29, 1865, to CORNELIA RAIMAN, daughter of WILLIAM RAIMAN, of Newtown, L. I.

GEORGE W. PHILLIPS.

The records of the last Assembly show that Cortland county was represented in that body by Mr. GEORGE W. PHILLIPS. The same records also evince that Mr. PHILLIPS was faithful in his attendance, and in the performance of his duties as a legislator, that while he did not officiously obtrude himself upon the attention of the House, he was always watchful of its proceedings and ready upon suitable occasions to vindicate what he considered right, and oppose what he deemed to be wrong. Courteous in debate, logical in his arguments, concise and clear in his language, and sensible in his views, he rarely, if ever, failed whenever he spoke to attract the attention of the House. His labors as a member of the Committee on Literature were appreciated by his compeers and by those in whose behalf they were performed. Before the close of the session leading Republicans in different parts of the county began to express to each other approbation of his course, and to propose the inquiry whether it would not be for the reputation of the county, and for the interest of the Republican party in it, to drop the single-term system which had thus far almost uniformly prevailed, and for once, at least, honor the custom in its breach rather than its observance. No member had been elected for two consecutive years since 1823. The idea of sending him back to Albany in 1874 continued to prevail in the county and culminated at the county convention, in his re-nomination on

the first ballot. His triumphant re-election followed as a matter of course.

He was born in Onondaga, December 18, 1823. At the age of seventeen he came to Homer, where he supplemented a good common-school education by a thorough course of study in Cortland Academy. As a teacher and a Town Superintendent, he made available and useful the literary culture thus acquired. In 1850 he became a resident of Homer, where he still resides. As a merchant of enterprise and integrity, a trustee of Cortland Academy for several years, a member of the Village Board, and a Supervisor for the nine years subsequent to 1860, he acquired and maintained the confidence and respect of his fellow-townsmen.

He was chosen by the Board of Supervisors a member of the Volunteer Bounty Committee, and held that position, most of the time as Chairman, during its entire existence. His services on this committee are regarded as having been of great value to the county and to the Federal cause. His knowledge of the details of the duties devolving upon him was thorough, and his judgment was much respected. His clear perception of the principles involved, his retentive memory of the facts in each case, and his uniform readiness to meet all the demands made by it upon his time and attention, fully justified the successive Boards of Supervisors in retaining his services upon the committee. In politics he was a Whig until the formation of the Republican party, in which he took an early and active part. He has remained an earnest worker in that party.

In the present Assembly he serves as Chairman of Engrossed Bills, and member of Education and Two-thirds and Three-fifths Bills. He has the reputation of being one of the most industrious members of the House, and during the present session he has been distinguished for his efforts in behalf of economy and reform.

EDWARD C. PHILPOT.

The gentleman who ably represents the First district of Madison county in the Assembly is EDWARD C. PHILPOT, a native and resident of the town of Eaton, in that county. He is of Protestant-Irish descent. His grand-parents settled in Eaton in 1807, on the farm still occupied by his mother, whose maiden name was MARY TOOKE, his father having died July 27, 1859. Mr. PHILPOT was born on November 9, 1834, and he is, therefore, a little over thirty-nine years of age. He was liberally educated in the common schools and at the Central New York Conference Seminary at Cazenovia, completing his study of the ordinary branches in 1852. During a couple of years subsequently he taught school, but entertaining a penchant for the legal profession, he read law for several years in the office of Hon. HENRY GOODWIN and D. J. MITCHELL, of Hamilton, and was admitted to the bar in 1856. He then formed a partnership with Hon. J. B. ELDRIDGE, at Hamilton, and practiced with fair success until the partnership was dissolved in 1859. During the next two years he practiced law with Col. JOHN T. PHILPOT, his brother, at Cleveland, Ohio. Owing to poor health he finally returned to Pratt's Hollow, however, and settled down to the occupation of farming. He also practices law, and is a Justice of the Peace of his town.

Mr. PHILPOT has been active and prominent in Madison county politics for a long period, having been a delegate to every county and district convention for the last ten or twelve years. He has also been a delegate to State Conventions, and as Supervisor, Justice of the Peace, Justice of Sessions, and now, as member of Assembly, bids fair to perform his full share of public service. Soon after his return from Ohio he was elected Supervisor for the town of Eaton, and served two years in the board. This was during the

rebellion, and he rendered important aid in filling the quota of his town. In 1864, he was chosen Justice of the Peace, and has filled the office ever since. In 1867, he was also elected Justice of Sessions, holding the office until 1869. In the fall of 1872, he received a majority of 1,525 for the Assembly, P. ADELBERT BURDICK being the opposing candidate. Last fall he was re-elected member of Assembly, by about 1,000 majority, an honor never conferred on any previous member, he having been renominated by acclamation, the member always rotating from town to town until this year. Mr. PHILPOT's first vote was cast for JOHN C. FREMONT for President. Since then he has steadily labored and voted for the success of Republican principles and candidates. Last year Mr. PHILPOT was Chairman of the Committee on Petitions of Aliens, and a member of the Committee on Privileges and Elections. This year he is Chairman of Agriculture and member of Civil Divisions. He is a bachelor, and weighs 200 pounds.

GARDNER POPE.

The Essex district, which is usually Republican, having been represented during two years past by FRANKLIN W. TOBEY, now Senator, sends a Democrat this year in the person of GARDNER POPE, a well known business man and manufacturer of that section. Mr. POPE is a native of Essex county, and was born in Keeseville, September 11, 1838. His father, MARTIN POPE, was a native of Saratoga county, but he removed to Keeseville at the age of 25, and until the panic of 1837 was extensively engaged in the lumber business, being one of the first settlers in Essex county. Mr. POPE, the subject of this sketch, is well educated, having accomplished the full English course in Keeseville Academy.

At an early age he removed to Cleveland, Ohio, and engaged in a mercantile business, but the financial crisis of 1857 rendered it unremunerative, and he returned to his native place. Since then he has been in the iron business, at Ausable Forks.

MR. POPE has always been a Democrat. During five consecutive years — from 1862 to 1867 — he represented the town of Jay in the Board of Supervisors. Last year he was again re-elected, and he is now a member of the board, the earnest and conscientious manner in which he performs his duties securing him the approval of men of both parties. In the Assembly canvass Mr. POPE received 51 majority over JAMES W. STEELE, his Republican opponent, overcoming a Republican majority the preceding year of nearly 2,000, and being the first Democrat elected in 40 years. This demonstrates his home popularity beyond cavil.

MR. POPE is an able and attentive legislator, and will make a good record. He has never made a public profession of religion, but his family are Presbyterians. He was married on the 10th of July, 1872, to Miss BRISBIN, of Old Saratoga.

SETH G. POPE.

The most casual visitor to the Assembly chamber would scarcely fail to notice the tall and striking form of the member from Ogdensburgh. He is head and shoulders above the average of men in height, and his face, in which are strongly marked lines of character, is set in a flowing iron-gray beard. He gives the impression at once that he is a man of much ability, force of character, and tenacious purpose, and it is but just to observe that acquaintance strengthens such an impression.

SETH GRISWOLD POPE was born in Great Barrington, Berkshire county, Mass., on the 14th of December, 1819.

HIS father, EBENEZER POPE, a native of Connecticut, moved in early life to Berkshire county, Mass., where he lived until his death in 1842, at the age of 68, and was a man of sterling worth and integrity. He was a Democrat of the Jeffersonian school, and as such represented his town several terms in the State Legislature. His mother's maiden name was ZADY PRINDLE. She was widely known as a woman of exalted Christian faith and character, remarkable alike for her kindly and loving disposition and large charity. She died in 1863, at the age of 84, leaving a large family, the youngest of whom is the subject of our sketch. Mr. POPE enjoyed rather limited educational advantages during his youth, though he obtained some instruction in a common school. Previous to his majority, he served four years at the carpenter and joiners' trade, having charge of part of his employers' business before his term expired. At the age of twenty-two he commenced business for himself. During the eight years following, he built some of the best buildings in southern Berkshire, as well as several railroad bridges. He removed to Ogdensburgh in 1850, and engaged in the manufacture of doors, sashes, blinds, and similar articles. This business he still successfully continues at Ogdensburgh. Since he has resided in Ogdensburgh, however, he has also been extensively engaged as a contractor, among his numerous works of magnitude being a portion of the new reservoir in Central Park, New York, and several grain warehouses and elevators in Canada. For some years he has been general agent for the King Iron Bridge Company in the eastern states, where he is well known. He is also engaged in the hardware business in Ogdensburgh. In all his multifarious enterprises he has been uniformly successful, and enjoys wide repute for strict integrity, rare business sagacity, and indomitable energy.

In early life Mr. POPE was a Free Soil Democrat, but he was one of the first to enlist in the Republican ranks, and he has since been a strong supporter of the principles of that

organization. He was the first Republican President of the village of Ogdenburgh, and during the years 1863, 1864 and 1865, he represented the town of Oswegatchie in the Board of Supervisors. He invariably carries into every public position the same qualities which govern his conduct as a business man, and in him, therefore, the people have a clear-headed and capable representative. He was elected to the Assembly by a majority of 1,582 over EDWIN G. DODGE, and serves on the Committees on Commerce and Navigation, and Manufacture of Salt.

Mr. POPE has been twice married. His first wife was ISABELLA M. CARTER of Whitesboro, Oneida county. She died in 1857, leaving one child. In 1870 he married Mrs. H. C. CHAPIN, daughter of B. F. HASKELL, of West Cornwall, Vt. The result of this marriage is one son and one daughter.

L. BRADFORD PRINCE.

In view of his four years' record as a legislator, his eminence in the legal profession, his prominence in literature and politics, and his honorable connection with societies and institutions of learning, Mr. PRINCE may be regarded as one of the prominent men of our State. A finely cultivated gentleman, a thorough scholar, a brilliant and forcible speaker, and a man of decided and advanced opinions in most departments of thought, he is well qualified to maintain a leading position in a legislative body — such as the present one — which practically recognizes no leader. Mr. PRINCE was born in Flushing, his present place of residence, on the 3d of July, 1840. He is a lineal descendant of Gov. WM. BRADFORD, of Plymouth, one of the "Men of the Mayflower," and inherits many of the sturdy virtues of his Puritan ancestry. Both his grandfather and his great-grand-

father, on the maternal side, were Governors of Rhode Island, and, on the paternal side, he comes of the well known PRINCE family, of horticultural fame. After spending much of his youth in South Carolina and Florida in search of health, he was engaged, for a short time, in horticultural pursuits at Flushing, but his tastes leading him to the law, he entered Columbia Law School, from which he graduated with the highest honors, receiving the \$200 prize in Political Science. In 1868 he was complimented by being chosen as the Alumni orator, and is now President of the Alumni Association of the Law School. As a lawyer he stands high, being a clear and incisive reasoner, and possessing rare ability as an advocate. He indulges in very little fanciful rhetoric, relying mainly upon carefully presented facts and well digested deductions therefrom.

Mr. PRINCE's political career reaches over a period of more than sixteen years, embracing the whole history of the Republican party. His interest in political matters early developed itself, and as long ago as 1856 — in the Fremont campaign — he was an active writer and worker, receiving a special vote of thanks from the town club, of which he was too young to be a member. In 1860, though still not a voter, he acted as officer of the local organization, delegate, speaker, etc., enthusiastically supporting the Lincoln ticket. Since that time he has always been actively engaged in political work, though living in a county where the heavy Democratic majority precluded all expectation of personal advancement; and, as a political speaker, is well known in many sections of the State. Thirteen years ago he was chosen a member of the Republican Committee of Queens county, and has been its presiding officer for several years. He was also a delegate to the Chicago National Convention in 1868, and in the following year a member of the State Committee. He was first elected to the Assembly in 1870, when he received a majority of 1,415, although the district is about 600 Democratic.

Mr. PRINCE's popularity, in fact, has never been bounded by party lines, men of all shades of political belief recognizing the fact that his splendid abilities are available for the welfare of the whole people. Though not entirely unknown in the State at large when he entered the Assembly, his talents commanded speedy recognition in that body, and his skill as a debater and his legislative efficiency were soon apparent. In the fall of 1871 he was again placed in nomination, and though his opponent was the strongest Democrat in the district, and a man who had served two terms in the Assembly and one in the State Senate, Mr. PRINCE received a majority of 1,169. In the fall of 1872 he received the extraordinary compliment of a request for his continuance in office, signed by over 2,000 voters, irrespective of party. He was thereupon nominated by acclamation, and elected without opposition. Such tribute to high personal character and exceptional official fidelity, is rarely extended to a public man, and all who know Mr. PRINCE will readily admit that it was in every way deserved. Last fall he was tendered the Senatorial nomination, but he declined it for reasons in the highest degree honorable to him. He received a unanimous renomination for the Assembly, and was elected by a vote of 2,424 against 401, for his nominal opponent, J. H. WRIGHT. In the ensuing canvass for the Speakership, he was the opponent of Mr. HUSTED in the caucus. The contest was close and exciting, but it was conducted with entire good feeling on both sides; and though Mr. PRINCE was defeated, it furnished another proof of the high estimation in which he is held by the people. The fact that he was, in an especial sense, the candidate of those desiring purity and reform in legislation, was exceedingly creditable to him.

His service in the Assembly has been an honorable one. As Chairman of the Judiciary Committee during this and the last two sessions, his labors have not only been multifarious and arduous, but exceedingly valuable to the State. It was his province during the winter of 1872, to conduct the

investigation into the official conduct of Judges BARNARD, CARDOZO and MCCUNN. This investigation extended from February 19 to April 10, during which time 239 witnesses were examined, and over 2,400 pages of evidence taken. The thoroughness and fairness with which the investigation was prosecuted secured the approbation of all parties, and its results form the brightest page in the history of that Legislature. The verdict of the committee was so evidently based upon justice and evidence, that it met with very general acquiescence. The report in favor of impeaching two of the judges and removing the other, was adopted by the House, and, in the choice of managers to conduct the impeachment trial, which, as is known, resulted in the disgrace of Judge BARNARD, Mr. PRINCE received 110 of the 113 votes cast by the House, the others chosen varying from 104 to 50 each. He was also appointed to proceed to the Senate and formally impeach Judge BARNARD at its bar, for high crimes and misdemeanors. He was active in the matter until the trial closed, and it is probably due to him more than any other one man, that the Judiciary of the State was relieved of the disgrace that would have attended BARNARD's retention on the Bench.

Mr. PRINCE has, during his whole legislative career, been the uncompromising foe of special legislation. He favors the passage of no act the object of which can be attained under a general law, or which can be taken care of by the boards of supervisors. As a result of his influence and efforts, the volume of annual legislation has been materially reduced, to the decided advantage of the State. In the present session, besides the Chairmanship of the Judiciary Committee (which committee annually considers nearly 400 bills, having over one-quarter of the legislation of the State referred to it), he is member of the Committees on Ways and Means and Rules.

It is not alone, however, in the field of politics or law that Mr. PRINCE has won honor and fame. He is well known, also,

as a thoughtful writer and lecturer on various topics, among which, perhaps, those relating to Legislative and Governmental Reform have attracted the widest notice. Several years ago he wrote a work entitled "E Pluribus Unum, or, American Nationality," which passed through several editions, and was warmly commended by statesmen and political scientists. Not long since he delivered a lecture in New York and several other cities, in which some of the evils of the present system of law-making were severely handled. He inveighed very strongly, in particular, against special and local legislation, the bulk of which has compelled much of the important work of every session to be crudely and hastily performed. His suggestions attracted much attention, and some of them have been embodied in the constitutional amendments now pending. Mr. PRINCE is also a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity, having been D. D. Grand Master of Queens and Suffolk counties for three terms. For ten years he was Superintendent or Director of the Queens County Agricultural Society, and during eight years has been an officer of the Long Island Historical Society. With all his attainments, Mr. PRINCE is a quiet, courteous, unassuming gentleman, strictly conscientious in all his dealings with others, and it is evident that still greater honors are in store for him in the future.

TERRENCE J. QUINN.

The Third Albany district is this year represented by one of the best known Democrats of the Capital city. Mr. QUINN has long been prominent in Albany politics, and is exceedingly popular among the young Democrats of that city. Being a business man and owner of a large property in Albany, where he is a life-long resident, he is well qualified to represent its industrial and commercial interests.

TERRENCE J. QUINN was born in Albany, October 16, 1836. His parents, JAMES and ANN QUINN, both deceased, were natives of county Langford, Ireland. He was educated in the common schools, and in Albany Academy. He early became identified with the brewing interests of Albany, in which his father was engaged, and has followed the business up to the present time, being now a member of the brewing and malting firm of QUINN & NOLAN, whose brewery is one of the largest in the city. In business circles, Mr. QUINN is known as a man of probity and integrity, and his word is as good as his bond anywhere in the city.

When the late war broke out Mr. QUINN was among the first who volunteered. He was a lieutenant in company B, Twenty-fifth regiment, N. G. S. N. Y., and that regiment was the first that left Albany for the front, in April, 1861. It was placed in an important position on Arlington Heights, and it was Lieutenant QUINN's fortune to capture the first prisoner taken in the war, on the morning when the gallant Col. ELLSWORTH was shot. Lieutenant QUINN served through the term of three months in front of Washington, and was also with the regiment during a second three months term at a later period, when it performed exceedingly arduous service at Suffolk, Va.

As we have intimated, Mr. QUINN has long been prominent in the local politics of Albany. He has held several positions of trust in the gift of his party, and frequently served on General and Ward Committees. He has also been four times elected a member of the Board of Aldermen, serving in all, some seven years in the board. In the recent canvass a Republican of high character, Mr. HENRY W. DWIGHT, was placed in nomination against him, but he defeated him by a majority of 818, which, considering the discouragement incident to a threatened division in the Democratic ranks, was doing remarkably well. His legislative career has thus far been a quiet one. He is not particularly troubled with the oratorical gift, but he nevertheless ex-

presses himself freely and plainly, whenever matters which interest his constituents are under discussion. He is a member of the Committees on Militia and Federal Relations.

Mr. QUINN was married on the 30th of October, 1866, to ANNIE T. LAWLOR. In religion he is a Roman Catholic. Connected with several military organizations, and having been a member of the Jackson Corps since its foundation and aiding it materially in its success, a member of different charitable, literary and other societies, he has scattered with a liberal hand the wealth he has earned. He is a man of genial manners, generous instincts and numerous graces of character, and possesses most of the qualities of mind and heart which win popularity.

JAMES RYAN.

JAMES RYAN represents, for the second time, ward seven of New York city, which constitutes the Fourth Assembly district of the metropolis. He was elected in 1872 by a majority of 635 over his Apollo Hall opponent, JOHN GALVIN. Last fall his majority was 131 over CHARLES REILLY, Republican and Apollo Hall. He is of Irish descent, is an inflexible adherent of the Tammany wing of the Democracy, and is a man of social instincts, agreeable manners, and much ability as a legislator. Last year he was a member of the Committees on Internal Affairs, and Expenditures of the Executive Department, and this year he is on Internal Affairs, and Sub-Committee of the Whole.

JONAH SANFORD.

JONAH SANFORD was born in Hopkinton, St. Lawrence county, New York, on the 24th of October, 1821. In 1847 he married CLARINDA RISDON, daughter of ELISHA RISDON, one of the earliest settlers of the town—a man of sterling integrity and unimpeachable character, and for many years a general land agent. Mr. SANFORD is a son of the late Judge JONAH SANFORD, a man who deserves more than a passing notice in this sketch. Judge SANFORD was one of the most remarkable men Northern New York has ever known. He was the intimate friend and associate of such men as SILAS WRIGHT and PRESTON KING, and it is but paying a just tribute to his memory, when we say, that no man labored more arduously and successfully for the advancement of the interests of his locality than he. He was the son of Hon. BENJAMIN SANFORD of Cornwall, Vermont, and was born November 30, 1790. His parents being poor, his early advantages were meagre indeed, and at the age of twenty he started westward with all his possessions upon his back, and after some difficulty selected a spot in Hopkinton, where he set to work to construct out of the primitive and almost unbroken wilderness a home. Here he incessantly toiled, and being a man of indefatigable industry he succeeded in wresting from stubborn nature a fine homestead upon which he resided till his death, on the 25th of December, 1867. Soon after settling in Hopkinton, he purchased a few text-books of law and set to work with a heroic will for their mastery, and he soon became by his persistent energy quite proficient in the fundamental principles of the law. For many years thereafter he was one of the most successful, if not one of the ablest practitioners of the law in Northern New York. He held many important civic and military positions; was Justice of the Peace and Supervisor of the town for several years, Member

of the Legislature, Judge of the County Court, Member of Congress for the unexpired term of the late SILAS WRIGHT, (when the latter was elected Comptroller) and a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1846. In the military service he began as a volunteer in the war of 1812, and was present at the battle of Plattsburgh September 11, 1814. By successive promotions he rose to the rank of Brigadier-General, being the successor in the latter capacity of Governor WRIGHT. In 1827 he was appointed a Commissioner to lay out, and build the Port Kent Road through a wild wilderness of fifty miles, a work of great difficulty. But the noblest effort of his life perhaps, and by which he will be longest remembered, was his organization, armament and discipline of the 92d New York Regiment of Volunteers when seventy-one years of age, and which he led as Colonel to the seat of war on the James. In politics he was a Democrat till the organization of the Republican party, to which he early united; and its principles found in him an earnest advocate and steadfast adherent. He was a man of noble figure and commanding presence, a fluent and forcible speaker, courteous in debate and always yielding a point when convinced of his error. He was especially fond of the society of young men, and exerted a great influence over them. Being a man of large size and giant physical power, his endurance was wonderful. Once entered upon a task, nothing could prevent its accomplishment. His example and worth as a man will be long remembered.

Mr. SANFORD, the son, attended school in the winters only of his boyhood, and completed his education in the St. Lawrence Academy, at Potsdam, N. Y. On arriving at majority, he spent the first four years following as superintendent of his father's farm. He then moved upon a small farm of his own, and toiled with such perseverance that he was soon able to purchase a larger property, upon which he has since resided, and to which he has added extensively. He also turned his attention to manufacturing and speculation, and

by the aid of good judgment and management has succeeded in accumulating a competence. In politics he was a Democrat up to the organization of the Republican party, to which he early united, and to which he has steadfastly adhered. His first vote as a Republican was for FREMONT, in 1856. His townsmen have often called him to positions of trust, and have always re-elected him by an overwhelming vote. In 1862 he was appointed Assistant Assessor of Internal Revenue, by the Secretary of the Treasury, which position he held till the consolidation of the system, in 1872. As an Assessor he bore a high reputation for his promptness in the performance of his duties, his faithfulness to the government, and his exactness in the affairs of the office. At the termination of his duties, the Assessor thanked him in warm terms for the prompt and efficient manner in which he had performed his duties.

In August, 1862, he was appointed Enrolling Officer for his town. In 1867, some eighty enterprising and well-to-do farmers of the towns of Lawrence, Hopkinton, Parishville and Dickinson established a union store. Mr. S. was and still is its President. Under his judicious management it has prospered financially beyond expectation.

He was first elected Supervisor of his town in 1868, and has been annually elected by a two-third majority ever since, being the first who has held the position for more than two years in succession. The fact that he has been each time opposed by a Republican (except last year, when he had no opposition), speaks well for his performance of the duties of the trust. Mr. S. is, at the present time, a Vice-President of the St. Lawrence County Agricultural Society, and also a Director of the Raquette Valley Agricultural Society.

He was the first man nominated in the State last fall, and the *Courier and Freeman* thus spoke of him at the time :

“ Mr. S. is the present Supervisor of the town of Hopkinton, is a son of the late Judge SANFORD, is an extensive and wealthy farmer, an ardent Republican, and a judicious, upright and safe

man. He is the first man nominated for the Assembly, and is worthy of the vanguardship in initiating the political campaign of 1873. His nomination is a significant omen of legislative purity and reform."

Mr. SANFORD is an active, upright business man — a man of large and varied experience — affable in his manners, and pleasing in appearance. Though not of the "talking-machine" class, he expresses his opinion when he thinks it his duty, and always to the point. He is not one of those "who wear their heart out on their sleeve," but looks on the bright side of things generally. Few men enjoy with keener relish the pleasure of social intercourse. He gives freely to all benevolent and charitable purposes, and is a thoroughly public-spirited man. All movements for the benefit of the public, or undertakings to alleviate the distresses of personal misfortune have his hearty support and pecuniary aid. Judging from his past record, we bespeak for him a successful career in the new field to which he has been chosen with such substantial unanimity.

GEORGE SCHERMAN.

Mr. SCHERMAN represents the Eighth New York district, which, until within a year or two, has been Democratic. He was born in Germany, on the 29th of July, 1838, came to this country at an early age, and was married to MAGDALENA STOLL, in New York, on the 4th of January, 1869. He received a good common-school education, and learning the trade of blacksmith, followed that occupation a number of years. For the past five years, however, he has filled the office of inspector of customs of the port of New York. He has been a Republican since 1856, and has steadily acted with the party, possessing a good deal of influence among his German fellow-citizens. His seat in the Assembly, to

which he was chosen by a plurality of 387, is contested by MARTIN NACHTMANN, a former member, and JACOB MESSEK. Mr. SCHERMAN serves on the Committees on Internal Affairs, and Federal Relations. He is a Protestant in religious belief, and though a quiet, undemonstrative member, is exceedingly valuable as a working legislator.

FREDERICK SCHIFFERDECKER.

Mr. SCHIFFERDECKER, of the first Albany district, is perhaps as good a specimen of the Teutonic element in American civilization, as we would be apt to meet with anywhere. He is a thorough German, but he is Americanized to that extent that he is devotedly attached to the institutions of the new world, and he would resent as an insult any intimation that he is other than a truly loyal citizen of the republic. No one who knows him, however, would venture to make such an intimation, inasmuch as he has proved his loyalty and right to citizenship upon more than a score of hard-fought battle-fields, and still bears the scars of honorable service in the army of the Republic. He was born in Baden, Germany, on the 2d of February, 1836, and came to this country when only eleven years of age. His grandfather, HENRY SCHIFFERDECKER, was, during a term of seven years, a member of the First Napoleon's body guard, and was a splendid specimen of physical manhood, being over six feet in height. HENRY SCHIFFERDECKER, father of the present Assemblyman, ran away from Baden, when the revolution broke out in 1848. He came to this country with his family, leaving behind him extensive property, he being a man of considerable means.

Young SCHIFFERDECKER was educated mainly in the German common schools. After coming to this country, he went to work in a furnace at seventy-five cents a week.

That sum would then go much farther than it does now, but it did not satisfy our hero, who, after helping GEORGE SCHWARTZ awhile at butchering, got a very good job in JOHN MCB. DAVIDSON'S safe factory. There he worked seven years. Then he went to Schenectady and resumed butchering, and after an experience of a few months he lost every dollar he had. Then he tried boiler making in the Hudson River Railroad shops for a few months—all this previous to his twenty-first year. In 1857, he was married to ANNA RAPP, and shortly after resumed butchering and also resumed the wholesale meat business. In this he had rather varying success, but when the war broke out he was doing well.

Shortly after the commencement of hostilities, he recruited a company for the 46th New York Volunteers, and was elected its First Lieutenant, but failed to get his commission. He went to the front, however, as a private, was soon advanced to the grade of sergeant, and on the 1st of March, 1862, was commissioned Second Lieutenant, and detailed to the quartermaster's department. The regiment was then under Gen. TERRY in South Carolina. In the June following, after the battle of James Island, he was promoted to First Lieutenant, and detailed to duty on the staff of Gen. TERRY. He served with the regiment to the end of the war, performing duty on the Atlantic coast, in Virginia and Maryland, in Tennessee, and in Mississippi at the siege of Vicksburg. On the 18th of October, at the close of the battle of Antietam, in which he distinguished himself, he was promoted to the rank of Captain. At Petersburg, Va., he was in command of the regiment, and was wounded in the arm. He was also wounded in the right shoulder at Somerset, Ky. During his long and arduous service, he participated in numerous battles, among the most important of which were those fought at Port Royal, Fort Pulaski, James Island, second Bull Run, Chantilly, South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburgh, Vicksburgh, Jack-

sonville, Strawberry Plain, Loudon and Knoxville. He was with the Ninth corps in the famous Wilderness battles in Virginia, and during the terrible campaign which ended with the surrender of the rebel army at Appomattox. His army record is in every way one to be proud of. He was brave almost to rashness, and ever ready and enthusiastic in the performance of duty. His many generous qualities also made him a favorite among officers and men, all of whom were greatly attached to him.

The war over, Mr. SCHIFFERDECKER gladly returned to the domestic hearth and peaceful pursuits. He resumed his old business of butchering and meat-selling, which he still continues, and he is now comfortably well off. From an early age he has been active in politics. First, strange as it may seem, he was a "Know Nothing." He soon, however, became identified with the Republican party, and has ever since been an active worker in the ranks of that organization. He has not held many political offices. At different times he has been an inspector of meat and cattle, and clerk of the Albany market, and was a rinderpest commissioner in the town of Bethlehem. He was also a member of the Albany Board of Supervisors in the years 1870 and 1871. These, we believe, sum up the public positions he has held; but in all of them he showed ability, and he has always been a hard worker in the ranks of the party, and very popular among the Republicans of Albany. His Assembly district is a close one, and sometimes sends a Democrat to the Legislature. He carried it, however, against a very popular Democrat, BARENT S. WINNE. As a member of the Committees on Two-thirds and Three-fifth Bills, Expenditures of the Executive Department, and Expenditures of the House, he has proved to be an active and efficient member. To outside view Mr. SCHIFFERDECKER appears somewhat rough and unpolished, but the roughness is more apparent than real, as he is generous to a fault, courteous and kindly to all, and overflowing with genial good nature.

STEPHEN D. SHATTUCK.

The first district of Steuben ranks among the "closely contested" localities of the State, and neither party can claim a monopoly of its representation. This year Mr. SHATTUCK, an able and well known Democrat, has the honor of representing it in the Assembly. He is a man about the middle age, rather undersized, active and full of vitality, and amply qualified to fill his responsible position. He was born in Cohocton, where he still resides, on the 5th of April, 1828. Educated mainly in the common schools, and being a man of keen powers of observation, he is well informed upon all subjects which would naturally engage the attention of the average legislator. He commenced his business life, at the age of 18, as clerk in a store, and going into business for himself in the course of time, he has followed mercantile pursuits ever since, being reasonably successful.

Always a straightforward and consistent Democrat, Mr. SHATTUCK has been active in politics since his youth. During the Rebellion he was prominent as a War Democrat, giving his active co-operation to the work of filling the military quotas of his town and county. He has held several town offices, and during a period of five years was a member of the Steuben county Board of Supervisors. He was elected to the Assembly last fall by a majority of 455 over CHARLES K. MINOR, his Republican opponent, and serves on the Committees on Banks and Sub-Committee of the Whole. He is a Universalist in religious belief, and possesses many of those traits of character which win popularity and respect.

GEORGE SHERWOOD.

Mr. SHERWOOD was born at McDonough Springs, Chenango county, January 18, 1820. His grandfather, on his father's side, was a soldier in the revolutionary war, and served during the seven years. His mother's father was Rev. DAVID BUDLONG, a pioneer Baptist minister in Oneida county. His advantages for acquiring an education were limited, and consisted of very irregular attendance at a country common school, as such schools were thirty years ago. But notwithstanding his early disadvantages, he has absorbed, from much reading, a practical education, and acquired a good understanding of the world, if not of the Latin and Greek classics.

He has always followed the occupation of a farmer, and now owns and resides upon a farm a short distance from Binghamton, and overlooking the city. His wife, whom he married twenty-five years ago, is a daughter of ALLEN C. JEFFORDS, a surveyor, and a citizen somewhat prominent in the northern part of Broome county. In personal appearance, Mr. SHERWOOD indicates that he is a laboring man in his occupation, and not in any sense a "fancy farmer." He is of medium height, somewhat stout, black, bushy hair and beard sprinkled with gray, piercing black eyes and well-marked features, which are unmistakable evidences of firmness.

Following, perhaps, the predilections of his mother, he early united with the Baptist church, and has since been a communicant, although from settled convictions he has for several years refused to taste fermented wine at communion. For a time his refusal to touch the wine used in his church was regarded as a tentative, and was the subject of severe criticism. He was denounced as a "one-idea man;" but his "one idea" was finally acknowledged to be singleness of pur-

pose, and now his pastor, the Rev. LYMAN WRIGHT, D. D., and a large portion of his congregation are fully in accord with Mr. SHERWOOD on the subject of communion wine.

As might be supposed from his views upon the sacrament, Mr. SHERWOOD is a zealous temperance man. He has given much time to the cause, in lecturing, speaking and working for it. He holds no association more precious than the church, but the church usages, when they conflict with his views on temperance, must submit to a modification, or he dissents. It is so in politics and all things else. He was prominent in the Maine law movement in this State, and was a delegate to the convention that nominated Hon. MYRON H. CLARK for Governor in 1854. His political antecedents had been with the original abolitionists, when to advocate the universal manumission of slaves required more nerve than it did subsequently to take up a musket and march with the "three hundred thousand more" to put down the slavery rebellion. So few were the abolition voters in his section that tickets were not distributed to them, and Mr. SHERWOOD frequently voted a ticket cut from a newspaper, or copied the names from posters. Still he voted, although nearly alone, for the abolitionists' principles, rather than for men, until the Republican party organized, in 1856, to vote with him. Since the Republican party has existed he has been one of its most ardent supporters.

Notwithstanding Mr. SHERWOOD has been elected to office, he was never an aspirant for political positions. In 1870 he was chosen to represent his town — that of Binghamton — in the Board of Supervisors. The campaign that resulted in his election to the Assembly had features of peculiar interest. His nomination was unsought and unexpected, and almost without his knowledge that his name was to be presented to the convention. In a speech, accepting the nomination, he said that his motto was "Purity and Righteousness." The motto was acceptable to the Republicans of Broome, and Mr. SHERWOOD received 3,909 votes.

His opponent was J. STEWART WELLS, a wealthy manufacturer. The Democrats made a special effort to elect Mr. WELLS, by concentrating their votes, means and tactics upon him. He received 3,364 votes.

Mr. SHERWOOD's course in the Assembly thus far has shown that he is faithfully endeavoring to act strictly in accordance with the principles embodied in his striking motto. His voice and his vote are invariably given upon the side of purity and righteousness, and several brief speeches, made in the interest of economy in the expenditure of the people's money, have attracted wide attention. His oratorical efforts are quaintly original in their style, and the language is the strongest Anglo-Saxon, put with almost startling directness. He uses expressions, sometimes, which sound strangely, but no one can gainsay the truth of what he says, or withstand the force of his honest logic. He holds what now-a-days would be deemed old-fashioned views, but it would be vastly better for the country were such views more widely current among our public men.

CHARLES SIMON.

Mr. SIMON is a wide-awake and energetic German citizen of Syracuse, which he in part represents in the present Assembly. He was born in Prussia, February 24th, 1837, came to this country at an early age, and was married on the 22d of March, 1856, to CATHARINA POECKLMAN, of Syracuse. His parents are both deceased.

He received a common school education, and has been engaged, during most of his life, in mercantile business, being a dealer in boots and shoes. For six years, ending in March of the present year, he has been City Assessor of Syracuse, and has filled the office to universal satisfaction.

His opponent in the late canvass was JOHN I. FURBECK, who was elected last year by a majority of 639. Mr. SIMON's official majority last fall was 174. Mr. FURBECK interposed a claim for the seat at the beginning of the session, but becoming satisfied that he could not sustain it, he afterward withdrew from the contest.

Mr. SIMON is a man about the medium height, but solidly built, with broad features, florid complexion and light hair. His face indicates capacity and intelligence, and he evidently fully apprehends the duties of legislation. He has little to say, but he is seldom absent from his seat, and watches with close interest the progress of law-making.

GEORGE B. SLOAN.

Mr. SLOAN represents a district—the First of Oswego—which has a habit of sending its best men to the Assembly. The custom is one good enough to be followed by any locality, and were it more generally the rule we should unquestionably secure better laws and greater wisdom in legislation. As the successor of Mr. FORT, whose reputation throughout the State is well known, we have another solid business man, and a man whose wealth and social position place him far above any suspicion of selfish motives in accepting the important trust which he is faithfully discharging. Mr. SLOAN's life has thus far been spent in Oswego. There he has made his reputation, and it is not too much to say that no man in Oswego is more highly regarded. He is devoted to the interests of that city, and his ability is such that he is well able to take care of those interests in whatever representative position he may be placed.

Mr. SLOAN was born in Oswego, June 20, 1832. His father, JAMES SLOAN, was a native of Massachusetts, and

emigrated to this State in 1825. His mother was of New Hampshire birth. After receiving a good common-school education, he entered a dry goods store at the age of fourteen as clerk. Two years later he became a clerk in an Oswego milling and produce house, in which he remained eight years. He applied himself diligently and faithfully to his duties, and missed no opportunity of acquiring the technical and practical knowledge so essential to a successful commercial career. In 1854, being twenty-two years of age, he formed a partnership with Mr. H. C. WRIGHT in the grain and commission business. This, however, was dissolved in 1856, and he entered into a similar relationship with CHENEY AMES, formerly a State Senator from the Oswego District. He continued with Mr. AMES until 1864, when, in connection with THEODORE IRWIN, a business man widely and favorably known, he established the house of ERWIN & SLOAN, which has had a prosperous existence ever since, occupying a high position for financial strength and character throughout the grain markets of the West and Canada.

It will thus be observed that Mr. SLOAN has literally grown up with the city of Oswego, and is closely identified with its material prosperity. In business circles, he bears the highest reputation for integrity and probity of character, while he possesses the tact, judgment and energy essential to successful business life, and without which substantial success cannot be attained. As a result he now occupies a high standing in Oswego, and he may fairly be credited with being one of the instrumentalities by which that city has been placed in her present important commercial position.

It is to be expected that such a man would take an active interest in politics, so far at least as to contribute his efforts and influence to secure good government for his native city. This he has always done freely and willingly, and while he has been averse to seeking or holding office, he has never withheld such aid as was in his power to those who have labored to place good men in the public service. His first

Presidential vote was cast for Gen. FREMONT in 1856, and since then he has invariably supported Republican principles and nominees. Receiving the unanimous nomination of his Republican District Convention last fall, he was constrained to accept the Assembly candidacy, and the fact that he was elected by nearly 1,200 majority, though Mr. FORT received but 129 majority the previous year, is a good indication of his popularity at home. It only remains to add that his course in the Assembly has fully justified the confidence of his constituents, as he is making an honorable record. He is not only watchful of the interests of his immediate constituency in the House, but matters pertaining to State policy, and especially the management of the canals and educational institutions of the State, receive from him such attention as their importance merits. Though a fluent and graceful speaker, it is only occasionally that he takes part in the debates, and when he does so, his speeches are short, practical and to the point—eminently characteristic of the man. His views are mainly found to be sound and sensible, and his arguments well considered and convincing.

In personal appearance, Mr. SLOAN is a plain, every-day sort of man. He is rather below the medium height, but his frame is well filled out without the slightest tendency to the aldermanic style of physical development. He is rather dark in feature, and a heavy moustache droops over a well set mouth which readily expands into a smile, being aided and abetted thereto by a chronic twinkle which sparkles in his black eyes. Pleasant and courteous to all with whom he comes in contact, strictly just and conscientious in all his relations, and possessing a happy and genial disposition, Mr. SLOAN certainly embodies all the elements of the thorough gentleman. We are fairly justified, now that he has entered upon public life, in predicting for him a brilliant and useful career. He was married in 1856 to the youngest daughter of the late ALBERT CRANE of Oswego, and has three children.

HUGH SMITH.

Mr. Smith, the representative of the Second district of Jefferson, was born in Buckingham, Bucks county, Pennsylvania, January 27, 1811, being the son of JOSEPH and HANNAH SMITH. His father's family moved into Brownville, Jefferson county, the home of General BROWN, in April, 1820. In September of the ensuing year his father died, leaving a family of seven children, ranging in age from four to sixteen years, in the hands of a mother, to be reared and cared for amid strangers, with the discouragements of sickness and debt, and upon a farm but a small portion of which was cleared and improved. The faithful mother's task was performed, however, with a tact and success rarely excelled, and she became widely known and respected.

The subject of this sketch was the fourth of the family. He spent his time continuously on the farm, attending the common district school a few months in the year, up to the age of twenty-five, excepting the winters spent in teaching, and also a portion of 1835 spent in the employ of a brother in doing work about a store.

He moved to Perch River in the spring of 1836, and in company with others, purchased landed and store property and engaged in the business of merchandising and farming, in which, with various partners, he has continued up to the present time, engaged also during the last eighteen years in the produce and cattle trade with Mr. HENRY SPICER, one of the GRANT Presidential Electors in the last Presidential election, under the firm name of SMITH & SPICER. He has been reasonably successful in all his enterprises, and is widely known as a prudent, safe and reliable business man.

He married Miss CHARLOTTE SPICER, the daughter of SILAS F. and CHARLOTTE SPICER of Perch River, in Septem-

ber, 1836. He is a brother of LEVI SMITH, who for some ten years was Town Clerk of the town of Brownville, and afterward for nine years was Postmaster of the city of Watertown under LINCOLN and GRANT. He is also the brother-in-law of Hon. JAMES A. BELL, for several terms Senator from Lewis and Jefferson counties, and more recently Auditor of the Canal Department.

With the exception of a postmastership, to which he was first appointed in 1836, by Postmaster-General KENDALL, under the Jackson administration, and which he held continuously for a period of twenty-one years, Mr. SMITH has held no office of a political nature until his election to the Assembly last fall. He has always been engaged more or less in politics. During the famous Morgan excitement he was known as an Anti-Mason, and took decided ground in the controversy which then raged throughout the State. Subsequently, and until 1840, he acted with the Whig party; but in that year he became identified, morally and politically, with the Abolition movement which was then beginning to crystalize, and under that banner he steadily fought until the year 1864, when Lincoln's emancipation proclamation obviated the necessity of further warfare. At the start he prompted the first Abolition organization in the town of Brownville, Jefferson county, and a ticket was nominated in part. The new organization was few in numbers, but it was bound to grow. At the first town election in which it took part, its ticket received but six votes. In the ensuing fall, however, ten votes were cast, and in a few years there were ninety Abolitionists in the town, holding the balance. He was also active in the cause throughout the county, and to some extent, in the State, being at different times nominated for town and county offices. At one time he was the nominee of the Abolition party for Congress. Since 1864 he has been an earnest and consistent Republican, and wields large influence in Jefferson county. Not only was Mr. SMITH actively connected with the Anti-Slavery movement of those

early days, but he was as deeply interested in the Temperance agitation of that time, and even before the days of the Prohibitory law, he was actively engaged in the effort to expel licensed traffic in intoxicating liquors from his town, and as a member of the first Temperance society in the town, and also one of the town Excise Board, chosen with reference to that object, his labors were exceedingly effective. In his locality, the traffic, whether licensed or unlicensed, was ultimately placed under the ban of public opinion.

He is still an active worker for the success of the Temperance cause, believing fully in the right and the duty of the people to protect themselves by "appropriate legislation" from the pauperism, crime and taxation which grows naturally and inevitably out of the traffic.

Mr. SMITH was not a candidate for the office which he now holds, but he accepted the position at the earnest solicitation of personal and political friends, receiving in his own town election district all but eleven of the votes cast for Assemblyman. His majority in the district was 196. After his present term expires, he purposes to return to his home and friends, and to "private" life. The people, however, may direct otherwise, inasmuch as men of his stamp are not so plenty that he can conveniently be spared from the service of the public.

Mr. SMITH is of Quaker parentage, and certainly he seems to possess all the stern virtues popularly ascribed to that sect. He is not a member of any denomination, but he is nevertheless a firm believer in the Christian religion, and his conduct through life is based upon correct principles. Tall and almost venerable in appearance, exceedingly modest and unobtrusive in manner, and gifted with that native courtesy and amiability which wins regard every where, Mr. SMITH has succeeded in securing universal respect during his stay in Albany.

JOSEPH W. SMITH.

The subject of this sketch was born at Elysville, Erie county, N. Y., on the 15th of November, 1831. His parents emigrated to America from Lorraine, France, in the year 1829. The poverty of the newly arrived emigrants rendered it necessary for all the members of the family to devote their time and energy to provide a home and obtain a livelihood; hence but little attention could be devoted to education, and such as was obtainable for a few weeks in the winter from indifferent teachers was the only schooling received by the elder children of the family. The younger ones had a better opportunity, as the country became more settled, and the affairs of the family more prosperous.

Mr. SMITH has taken an active part in the politics of Erie county since a very early age, being a leading Democrat, and has frequently held public positions. In 1852, he was elected Constable; in 1854, he was appointed on the detective force by the Mayor and Common Council of the city of Buffalo, which position he held satisfactorily until 1857, when he resigned and entered into the wholesale wine and liquor trade. In 1860, he sold out his interest in the wine and liquor business, and commenced the manufacture and sale of tobacco and cigars. The same year he was married to the eldest daughter of JOHN DINGENS, who, in 1848, the year of his death, was one of the most prominent merchants and citizens of Buffalo.

In 1862, Mr. SMITH was elected Supervisor of the Fourth ward of Buffalo. In 1864, he was urged to and did accept the appointment of head keeper of the Erie county alms house, which position he held four years, filling it to the entire satisfaction of the public, but a law was passed taking the appointment of the office away from the superintendent

of the poor and giving it to the Supervisors. The board was Republican, and Mr. SMITH was consequently removed.

In 1871 and 1872, he became engaged with a number of capitalists in developing several silver mines at Thunder Bay, Lake Superior. He is at present identified with four companies, being director in two, besides holding a large amount of undeveloped territory. He holds a staff position in the 65th Regiment, New York National Guard. In the political campaign that resulted in his election as Member of Assembly from the second district of Erie county, he entered the field but a few days before the 4th of November, with but little prospect of election, his opponent having been elected by a majority of some 800 the year previous, and the district having previously given upward of 1,400 Republican majority. Mr. SMITH was determined to reduce the majority even if he failed being elected, and his election by a majority of nearly 300 shows the estimation in which he is held by his constituents.

Mr. SMITH is tall and fine looking. He has little to say on the floor of the House, but he is always in his seat, and evidently aims to do his duty faithfully and intelligently.

ROBERT A. SNYDER.

Mr. SNYDER, who is from the First District of Ulster county, is a young man of ability and shrewdness, and a plain straightforward man of business. He prefers, as a rule, to let others do the talking on the floor of the Assembly, but this does not prove that he is entirely devoid of oratorical gifts. On the contrary, he is well able to express his views in good language, should the occasion arise. He is a pleasant-faced dark complexioned man in the early prime of life, in full health and vigor, active and energetic, and enthusiastic in

the performance of any duty which is devolved upon him. He comes to the Assembly with the prestige of having defeated an active and popular Democratic competitor, and undoubtedly ranks among the most efficient Republicans of Ulster county.

ROBERT A. SNYDER was born in the city of Poughkeepsie on the 18th of May, 1836. He received his education mainly in the common schools, and early became accustomed to business habits of life. He was married at Catskill on the 5th of March, 1863. After reaching man's estate, he became engaged in the transportation business at Saugerties. In that business, which he still follows, he has been quite successful, and he controls an extensive trade on the Hudson and other waters. Aside from these few facts, Mr. SNYDER's life presents little that would interest the public. It is the life of an honest, useful citizen, and its record, though brief, is honorable. In politics he has always been a Republican, and has always been prominent in the local councils of that party. Twice before he has been elected to office. In 1870 he was chosen Collector of the town of Saugerties, by a majority of 250. Last year he was elected Supervisor from the same town, by a majority of 275, and last fall he was sent to the Assembly by a majority of 1,170, PETER GILL being his opponent. The district, last year, gave a Democratic majority of over 300. In each of those positions, Mr. SNYDER has demonstrated capability and fitness, and so performed his duties as to win public approval. He has been placed on the Committees on Commerce and Navigation and Federal Relations.

CHARLES S. SPENCER.

No man now in the Assembly is better known than Col. CHARLES S. SPENCER, of New York. One of the foremost criminal lawyers of the New York bar, possessing rare social qualities, a graceful, fluent and eloquent impromptu speaker, and being a man who has for many years filled a large place in popular attention and regard, Col. SPENCER is in every respect a satisfactory subject for the biographer. Not only does he possess numerous personal traits which are pleasant to contemplate, but his accomplishments are brilliant and varied. He seems perfectly at home in any department of learning, and his mind is equally well stored with the wealth of the sages and poets of the past, and with the more practical acquirements of the present. In all that constitutes the gentleman of culture and refinement, Col. SPENCER is fully equipped, and when we add that he possesses a grace of manner, a hearty good nature, and a genial courtesy which never leave him, even in the most exciting of the controversial tournaments in which he frequently engages, we merely refer to characteristics which are familiar to all who know the distinguished advocate. There are few men in the Empire State who are the equals of Col. SPENCER as an off-hand orator, and those who essay to cross swords with him on the floor of the Assembly, do so warily and circumspectly. He is ready and merciless at repartee, or in direct attack, while his keen shafts are aimed directly and surely, hidden as they are, frequently, even when the topic is common-place, by the most chaste and ornate flights of eloquence. He seldom permits an important question to pass without speaking upon it, and while his views are usually original and sound, he invariably makes every speech which he delivers, however short, the vehicle of an apt allusion or palpable "hit" which sets

the House in a roar and covers his opponent with confusion. He elaborates his remarks with singular readiness. The beauty of his gracefully turned periods would lead to the impression that they had been carefully evolved in the quiet of the library or study. No impression could be farther from the truth. His speeches ordinarily are dashed off on the spur of the moment, and with no preparation whatever, and therein, perhaps, lies their principal charm. In short he is in every respect a well-armed and efficient legislator, who is an ornament to the House and an honor to the great metropolis which he represents.

CHARLES S. SPENCER was born in Ithaca, Tompkins county, February 13, 1824. His father was Hon. DAVID D. SPENCER, a native of Ontario county, who died in 1855, and who occupied a distinguished and influential position in the State as Inspector of State Prisons, and editor and proprietor, during a period of thirty-four years, of the *Ithaca Chronicle*. Col. SPENCER was educated at the academies in Syracuse, Canandaigua and Ithaca, and at Williams College, graduating from the latter in 1844 with the highest honors of his class, being selected to deliver the salutatory address. He immediately applied himself to the study of law, and in 1847 he was admitted to the bar. In 1850 he removed to the city of New York to fill a position in the Custom House. Soon afterward he commenced the regular practice of his profession in the metropolis, and thus he has been engaged ever since, winning the highest laurels as an eloquent pleader. Though his practice embraces a wide range, his greatest reputation has been achieved in criminal cases, in which he has shown remarkable aptitude and ability. The record of important cases, in which he has been retained, would make an extended catalogue. It is sufficient to observe that he has won an enviable and enduring reputation, and accumulated a handsome fortune as the result of his long and honorable legal career.

Until the formation of the Republican party Colonel

SPENCER was a Whig. Since 1856, however, he has steadily acted with the Republicans, being one of the most active and zealous members of the party in New York city. He takes especial pride in the fact that he has never changed, neither when a portion of the party went over to JOHNSON in 1866, nor, later, when another portion joined its fortunes with HORACE GREELEY. He has not held many public positions, being averse to abandoning his profession for the uncertain honors of political life. In 1859 he was a Member of Assembly, and, during that session, he specially distinguished himself by his efforts in behalf of what was known as the "Personal Liberty Bill," and by his services on the Judiciary Committee. In 1866 he ran for Congress, in place of the late HENRY J. RAYMOND, but he was defeated by a coalition which was formed against him. During sixteen years past he has represented his locality in the Republican State Conventions, and he was also a delegate to the two last National Conventions of the party. In the late canvass, he was opposed by JOSEPH H. HORTON, and was elected to the Assembly by a majority of 795. In that body he is Chairman of the Committee on Militia and Member of Ways and Means and Judiciary.

Colonel SPENCER is Presbyterian in religious faith and connection. He was married August 16, 1849, to Miss ADELAIDE LOOMIS of Auburn, a niece of Dr. EDWARD LOOMIS, formerly Member of Assembly from Oneida county. He derives his military title from the fact that he is Colonel Commanding Fifth Regiment, N. G. S. N. Y., a popular metropolitan Regiment. He possesses a wide circle of personal and political friends, and to all his friendships he is as true as the needle to the pole. He is a man rather below the medium height, but closely knit and well built. His whole personality is instinct with restless, nervous energy, and no member of the House is constantly more active than the representative of the Thirteenth metropolitan district.

GEORGE W. SPENCER.

The two SPENCERS in the Assembly are alike only in name, and it would be exceedingly difficult to find two men in that body more dissimilar in personal characteristics. He of the metropolis is brilliant, dashing and fond of contact with his fellows. The gentleman from Penn Yan is modest, retiring, and content to perform his allotted life-work without the incentive of popular applause. The one is a lawyer whose praises fame has sounded far and wide; the other is a plain farmer, possessing honesty and ability, comparatively indifferent to the praise or censure of the great world, and scarcely known beyond a limited circle. The subject of our sketch, however, enjoys considerable local prominence, and possesses in large degree the confidence and esteem of his immediate fellow-citizens. This, doubtless, fills the measure of his ambition, as far as popular approval is concerned.

GEORGE W. SPENCER was born in Benton, Yates county, February 2, 1821. He is the son of ELIJAH SPENCER, a native of Columbia county, in this State, and now deceased, who, during a long and useful life, held numerous offices of public trust, serving in the State Assembly, and also in Congress. He was a prominent member of the Constitutional Convention of 1846. The younger SPENCER was brought up a farmer, and received a good education at Penn Yan Academy, but though thus qualified for a more strictly intellectual occupation, he chose, on reaching manhood, to adhere to the farm, and we still find him recorded as an agriculturist. On February 11, 1852, he married ELIZABETH M. WHEELER, and as a result of a life of industry, he possesses a comfortable homestead, and is the head of a happy family circle.

Mr. SPENCER's earliest political connection was with the old Whig party. When that party ceased to exist he became identified with the Democracy, and has since acted there-

with. Though always active as a Democrat, he has never been inclined to forsake his honorable calling for the allurements of office. Only once before has he filled an official station of prominence. In 1871 he was elected County Clerk of Yates county. In the performance of the duties of that office, he exhibited a regard for the public interests, and a zeal in the performance of his duty, not always characteristic of public servants. So well, indeed, was the people satisfied with him, that his promotion was decided upon, and he was elected to succeed a Republican in the Assembly by a very flattering majority, considering the heavy Republican preponderance in the district at the previous election. That he will prove himself worthy of the confidence thus reposed in him, no one can doubt who has witnessed his straightforward course since he has been a Member of Assembly.

ORRIN T. STACY.

Among the more prominent of the new members of the Assembly, we may fairly rank Dr. ORRIN T. STACY, of Alleghany county. He does not frequently favor the House with speeches, but when he does, he invariably commands attention, for he possesses a very engaging style of delivery. His eloquence is not of the soaring kind, but his speeches are plain and practical, couched in well chosen language, expressed with ease and grace. He is blessed with a fine physical development and exuberant health, and being a gentleman of thorough culture and correct principles, he constitutes a legislative character pleasant to contemplate. There are few members of the present House, more thoroughly qualified for the duties devolving upon the law-maker, than Dr. STACY.

He was born in Centerville, in this State, November 5th, 1835. His father, WILLIAM A. STACY, was a native of Ver-

mont but removed to Allegany county in 1824, and followed the practice of medicine and surgery during a period of forty years. He died in 1867. The son, the present member, received a thorough academic and collegiate education, graduating from the Buffalo Medical College in March, 1860. Since that year he has been engaged in the practice of medicine. On June 25, 1862, he was married to Miss ANTOINETTE KENDALL. In 1863, in addition to his medical practice, he became interested in a dry goods store and also in a drug establishment, and in both a business and professional sense he has been successful, so successful, in fact, that he is now enabled to give the public the benefit of his talents in the field of statesmanship.

In politics he has always been a Republican, and an active and energetic one. He cast his first vote for FREMONT in 1856, and since then has never swerved in his allegiance to the party of his choice. His present position, however, is the first political office he has held, and we may safely venture the prediction that it will not be the last, as he shows unquestionable aptitude for public life. He was elected to the Assembly, by a majority of 1,347, his Democratic opponent being O. T. HIGGINS, and he serves on the Committees on Public Education, Public Health and Sub-committee of the Whole.

STEPHEN D. STEPHENS, JR.

Mr. STEPHENS is an active and energetic young man, under thirty years of age, and represents the Democratic county of Richmond. He is valuable in the details of legislation and committee work, but is not regarded as a speech-maker, and, apparently, has little ambition that way. He was born in Richmond, Staten Island, where he still resides,

April 19, 1845. His father and paternal ancestors, three generations back, were born in New York city, his ancestors on his mother's side being natives of Staten Island. Both his grandfathers, paternal and maternal, served in the war of 1812, while their fathers distinguished themselves in active service during the war of the revolution. Mr. STEPHENS is well educated, having passed with honor through the several departments of Columbia College. In 1866 he graduated from that institution with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. Subsequently he entered the Columbia College Law School, and in 1868 graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. In the following year he received the degree of Master of Arts. He is now engaged in the practice of the law, being a member of the well-known law firm of TOMLINSON, MARSH & STEPHENS, of New York city, and is meeting with such success as to indicate that the future has many honors in store for him.

In politics, Mr. STEPHENS is a Democrat, and during a number of years he has been an active worker in the ranks of his party. He has never before held a public position, however. He is a member of the important Committee on Railroads, and is also on that of Villages. He was brought up in the Episcopal denomination, of which he is still a member, and is unmarried.

MARTIN L. STOVER.

Mr. STOVER is also one of the younger members of the Assembly, as well as one of those among the new members, who are making an excellent record and reflecting honor upon their constituencies. He was born on the 19th of October, 1845, at Waterloo, Seneca county. His father, M. J. STOVER, a Lutheran clergyman, attained wide repute as a

man of pure character and solid attainments. The subject of our sketch was educated at Wittenburg College, Springfield, Ohio, studied law, and was admitted to the bar in 1870; since then he has practiced law in Amsterdam, where he is gaining large popularity.

In May, 1862, when only sixteen years of age, he enlisted in the 86th Ohio Infantry as a private, and served in West Virginia. Being discharged by expiration of term of service, he re-enlisted in the 17th Ohio Battery of Artillery, also as a private soldier, and served with that command in the Department of the Gulf until the close of the war. He never sought nor asked a shoulder-strap, but was content to honorably perform his duty in the ranks.

Mr. STOVER's political record is necessarily brief, his position in the Assembly being the first he has held of a public or political nature. He has always been an active and consistent Republican, however, and in the late canvass was elected in a district usually close, over Hon. ISAAC S. FROST, a very worthy and popular Democrat, who has twice been a member of Assembly. Though not noted as a speaker, he occasionally addresses the House, when local measures are at issue, and has demonstrated that he possesses considerable oratorical ability. He is a member of the Committees on Railroads, Federal Relations and Public Lands, and is rarely absent from a session of the House. He is, we believe, unmarried.

JAMES E. SULLIVAN.

Mr. SULLIVAN represents the Twenty-first district of New York, and was elected in place of HENRY W. GENET, who was convicted of crime and is now a fugitive from justice. He was chosen by a plurality of 415, CHARLES CRARY, who represented the district last year, and HORATIO ALLEN

being his opponents. Mr. SULLIVAN takes no very active part in legislation, but he is always in his seat, and is evidently a close observer of all that is going on. He is a large, rather fine-looking man, with full whiskers and moustache slightly tinged with gray. He is agreeable and courteous in conversation, and is well known in New York as a politician and business man.

JOHN SUNDERLIN.

The closely contested district which embraces the counties of Fulton and Hamilton has for its representative JOHN SUNDERLIN, of whom we know very little, save that he is a quiet and modest gentleman, with some of the old school appearance about him. He bears upon his countenance the unmistakable stamp of honesty, and, both in a political and general sense, he is, probably, a fair representative of the intelligent constituency embraced within the rural counties mentioned. He is a Republican, and was elected over WILLIAM JEFFERS, the Democratic candidate in the last election, by a majority of 245, which is a slight increase over the Republican majority of last year. Mr. SUNDERLIN resides in the flourishing village of Gloversville.

GEORGE TAYLOR.

Mr. TAYLOR is a successful Rochester business man, well fitted for the practical duties of legislation. He capably represents the commercial interests of that important inland city, with which he has been identified many years. He was born in Stoddard, Cheshire county, N. H., November 26, 1832. He is, therefore, in the prime of a vigorous and

finely-developed manhood. He is of English descent, his ancestors having emigrated to this country about the year 1700. He was educated in the common schools, Marlow Academy, and Tubbs' Union Academy at Washington, N. H. His schooling was therefore very thorough, and enables him to be well armed, at all points, for the battle of life.

Mr. TAYLOR engaged in business pursuits very soon after reaching his majority, and by dint of industry and perseverance he has become one of the "solid men" of Rochester. For several years he was engaged in the manufacture and sale of boots and shoes, and he built up a large trade in that line of business. A few years ago, however, he commenced the manufacture of thermometers, barometers, and other meteorological instruments; and to this he mainly devotes his attention at present.

Mr. TAYLOR was born and educated a Democrat, and nothing has ever been able to swerve him from what he regards as the principles of that party. He has always, since an early age, taken an active part in the local politics of Rochester, and enjoys the confidence of his party in an unlimited degree. The proof of this is found in the fact that, for several years, he was a Member of the Rochester Board of Aldermen, and during one year was President of the Common Council, and also in the fact that he was elected to the Assembly by the very large majority of 1,054, the People's ticket the previous year receiving a majority of 173. He was opposed in the canvass by JOHN BOWER, a well-known Republican.

Mr. TAYLOR obtrudes himself upon public notice very little, but he is known as a very efficient member of the Assembly.

SAMUEL W. TEWKSBURY.

Wyoming county is represented this year by SAMUEL WILLARD TEWKSBURY, of Perry Centre. He is a plain, substantial farmer, past the meridian of life, and though he has frequently held political office, he maintains the character of a man who is thoroughly incorruptible and upright in all his dealings. He was born in York, Livingston county, on the 23d of July, 1820, and is of New England parentage. He received his education partly in the common schools and partly in Middleburgh Academy, which he attended during the years 1838 and 1839. After leaving school he turned his attention to teaching, and for several years he followed that honorable pursuit. He finally purchased the farm on which he now resides, and, during a long series of years, he has been known as a prosperous, hard-working agriculturist.

Mr. TEWKSBURY's first political lessons were learned in the Whig party, with which he was identified until 1856. In that year he supported FREMONT for President, and since then he has been a straightforward, conscientious and active Republican, fully in sympathy with the efforts to extirpate the slave power, as well as with the distinctive principles of the Republican party. His sterling traits of character have evidently been known and marked by his neighbors and political friends, as he has frequently been called upon to fill local positions of responsibility. During a period of eleven years he was Town Superintendent of Common Schools, five times he was elected Justice of the Peace, and during six years he represented his town in the Board of Supervisors. In the important Republican State Conventions, held in 1868 and 1872, he was a delegate from Wyoming county. In all these positions he has invariably sought to perform his duties with a single eye to the public good, and he comes to the Legis-

lature, and will leave it, with a record which is not tarnished in any way.

In the recent Assembly canvass he was chosen over RUSSELL C. MORDOFF, the Democratic candidate, by a majority of 640, a decided gain over the Republican majority the previous year. In 1870, the Liberals and Democrats carried the county, on Member, by 718 majority. He is a Member of the Committees on Charitable and Religious Societies, and Agriculture. He does not often indulge himself in speech-making, but in other and more effective ways he is an exceedingly valuable member.

HENRY THORP.

Another of the older members, in point of age, and also another of the farmer legislators, is found in the person of HENRY THORP, of Butternuts, Otsego county. His life presents nothing specially remarkable for the pen of the biographer, but it is a record of honest, manly endeavor, rewarded by a fair measure of success, and, what is worth more than lucre, the respect and esteem of those who best know him. HENRY THORP was born in Butternuts, his present place of residence, on the 24th of February, 1816. He is thus about fifty-eight years of age. His father, EDWARD THORP, was born in Greenwich, Conn., in February, 1776, and was, therefore, a little more venerable than the American Union. Young THORP received considerable education at home, but this was supplemented by the common school and the academy, and when he reached manhood he was very fairly educated. On the 19th of February, 1840, he was married at Unadilla, Otsego county, to MARY H. BUCKLEY.

Mr. THORP is known as a Liberal Republican. He was

nominated for the Assembly by a joint Convention of Liberals and Democrats, and received a majority of 142, over HENRY COPE, Republican, whom he succeeds in the Assembly. Mr. THORP was never a Democrat, though in view of his present affiliations, he is sometimes classed as such. He is a man of independent views, and in his party action is guided by what he believes to be right.

ELBERT TOWNSEND.

If physiognomy be any indication of character, the subject of this notice may be safely set down as one of nature's noblemen. A plain, honest face is Mr. TOWNSEND's, and one which gives little encouragement to the designing horde of lobbyists which swarm about the Capitol. Coming from a portion of the State rich in agricultural resources and in all the elements of material prosperity, he has little sympathy with the schemes of political adventurers, and his efforts as a legislator are therefore directed to the accomplishment of that which is for the best interests of the commonwealth, and the immediate locality which he represents. He was born in Pavilion, Genesee county, January 28, 1842, and has, therefore, just passed his 32d year. His father, ASHLEY TOWNSEND, who died about fourteen years ago, was a native of Vermont, though he settled in western New York soon after his marriage, and was the inventor of the first threshing machine used in that section of the country. Young TOWNSEND was brought up on his father's farm, and educated in the common schools. He married Miss EMILIE OLMSTED in 1862, and since then has successfully managed a large farm, devoting his attention especially to the breeding of Spanish merino sheep and Durham cattle. His efforts in this direction have gained for him quite a reputation among

the farmers of western New York, and he has already accomplished much toward the improvement of farm stock in that section. In 1872 he was President of the Genesee County Agricultural Society, and has always taken an active interest in the welfare of that organization. Though he has always been identified with the Republican party, and generally exerted a strong influence in behalf of its nominees, he has very rarely accepted public position. Before he was twenty-one years of age he had served two years as Town Clerk, and he was subsequently Justice of the Peace for four years. His election to the Assembly in 1872 was entirely unsought, and the fact that he received in that year a majority several hundred in excess of the Republican majority of 1871, was a sufficient indication of the regard in which he is held at home. Last fall he was re-elected by a gratifying majority, notwithstanding the influence of local issues. Mr. TOWNSEND served acceptably in 1873 as a member of the Committees on Agriculture, Grievances and Indian Affairs. This year he is Chairman of Manufacture of Salt and member of Charitable and Religious Societies. He is a man of robust physique, and possesses an intelligent appreciation of the duties of a legislator.

COMMODORE P. VEDDER.

Few members of the present Assembly exert a more commanding influence or possess greater legislative talent than Mr. VEDDER. He is known throughout the State as an active, earnest and independent Republican, who, while unswerving in his party fealty, is nevertheless incapable of being made the tool of cliques or rings. He is a man of exceptionally clear views of public interest as well as of party policy, while his convictions regarding all questions

are the result of careful reflection and the exercise of sound judgment. When once formed they are tenaciously adhered to.

Mr. VEDDER is the son of American parents, his father, JACOB VEDDER, being an industrious Cattaraugus county farmer. He was born in Ellicottville, his present place of residence, on the 23d of February, 1838. Before reaching man's estate he spent five years as a sailor on the lakes. He secured a good education, partially in the common schools, but mainly in the Springville Academy, which he entered in his twentieth year. Afterward he studied law, and was admitted to the bar in 1866. In 1862, after teaching school a few months, he enlisted as a private in the 154th regiment, New York Volunteers, and remained with the regiment until the close of the war, participating with uniform credit to himself in the battles of Chancellorsville, Wauhatchie, Lookout Valley, Lookont Mountain, Chattanooga, Rocky-faced Ridge, Siege of Savannah, and Bentonville. He bore an honorable part in SHERMAN's celebrated march to Atlanta and the sea, and for his gallant conduct in that campaign and at Lookout Mountain he was promoted successively to Lieutenant-Colonel of Volunteers, 1st Lieutenant, Captain and Brevet-Major, U. S. A. His war record is therefore something to be proud of.

When the war ended Mr. VEDDER commenced the practice of the legal profession, in which he has continued to the present time with marked success. In 1867 he was appointed Register in Bankruptcy, and still holds the office. He was also Assessor of Internal Revenue from May 10, 1869, until May 4, 1871, filling the office, as he fills every position, to the satisfaction of every one interested. In the fall of 1871, he was elected member of Assembly by a majority of 401, defeating CHARLES S. CARY, his Democratic competitor. In 1872 he defeated the same opponent by a majority of 688, after a very sharp canvass, in which the combined strength of the Liberal Republican and Democratic elements was

brought against him, and herculean efforts made to defeat him. Last fall he was elected over WM. F. WEED, by a majority of 386.

MR. VEDDER's course in the Assembly has been in every way creditable to himself and to his constituents. In 1872 he served on the Judiciary Committee, of which he is still a prominent member, and took an active part in the investigation into the conduct of the New York judges. He was also Chairman of the committee which drew up the articles of impeachment against Judge BARNARD, and was one of the managers selected by the House to conduct the trial of that unworthy wearer of the ermine. His connection with these momentous proceedings added largely in developing his fine legal talents, and added greatly to his reputation. He has been prominently identified with much of the important legislation of this and the last session, serving on several committees faithfully and well. Besides occupying the second place on the Judiciary Committee, he is now Chairman of Privileges and Elections, and Local and Special Laws.

As an orator, MR. VEDDER has few equals. Though he always speaks extemporaneously, and often without preparation, his efforts upon the floor are generally models of compact symmetrical argument. He clothes his ideas in direct and forcible, yet elegant, phraseology. Sometimes bold almost to audacity in his utterances, especially when discussing political questions, he frequently rises to heights of eloquence attained by few public speakers.

Previous to the war, MR. VEDDER was a Democrat, but the reverberation of the first gun at Sumter affected him much as it did thousands of other honest Democrats throughout the State. The so-called Democracy was effectually eliminated from his political constitution. He has since acted consistently with the Republican party, and is popular with men of all parties, as his personal and social qualities are of the most genial character. Whether we regard him in his private or public life, he is above reproach, and is in all

respects an honest, able and efficient legislator. He is a man of fine personal appearance and unusually pleasing address, and evidently has a brilliant career yet before him.

LOUIS C. WAEHNER.

The Tenth district of New York city is represented by a brilliant young lawyer, who, since his advent in legislative halls, has taken a front rank in point of ability and address. LOUIS C. WAEHNER was born in the city of New York in 1847. He is therefore one of the youngest members of the present House. He is of German parentage, both his parents being still living and residents of the metropolis. Mr. WAEHNER's education was obtained almost wholly in the public schools of New York city, and it is apparent that the excellence and efficiency of those institutions can scarcely be questioned if they habitually turn out such scholars as the subject of our sketch. On leaving school, he studied law for a time with STILLWELL & SWAIN, of New York city, and about six years ago he was admitted to the bar.

Mr. WAEHNER's political career is necessarily brief. He has always been a Democrat, however, and very decided in his convictions. His position as a legislator is the first office he has held, though he has generally been quite active in political campaigns, and in the fall of 1872 he ran as an independent candidate for the Assembly, and was defeated.

In the present House he is making an exceedingly honorable record. He is an excellent speaker, and takes occasion to express his views upon almost every important subject. He has a fine and rather commanding presence, a powerful and resonant voice, and a good delivery. He is also felicitous in the choice of language while on the floor, and there are not a few who rank him among the best orators in the present Assembly.

ALFRED WAGSTAFF, JR.

Colonel WAGSTAFF was born in the city of New York, March 21, 1844. He is of English and French extraction. His maternal ancestors (the DU BOISES) came from Holland, where they had sought a refuge from the persecutions visited upon the Huguenots in France, and settled on the banks of the Hudson. Like many others of their compatriots who found a safe asylum from persecution in this country, they were noted for intelligence, thrift and honesty, and some of them have held high positions of honor.

Mr. WAGSTAFF received a classical education, graduating from the Columbia College Law School on the 18th of May, 1866, with the degree of LL.B. He was admitted, in the Second Judicial district, as a Member of the Bar of the State of New York, and is now successfully practicing his profession in New York city, where he has acquired an extended reputation as a keen and able lawyer.

During the war Colonel WAGSTAFF took an active and honorable part in the conflict with the South. In 1863 he was commissioned Colonel of the Sixteenth Regiment, New York State National Guard, serving with his regiment during the Brooklyn Draft Riots. In the summer of 1864 he was with his command in the United States service, and had command of the Staten Island forts. He was commissioned First Lieutenant in the Ninety-first Regiment, New York Veteran Volunteers, November 12, 1864, and was detailed to the staff of General MORRIS, and subsequently as Commissary of Prisoners, and left Fort McHenry for Virginia. In February, 1865, he was promoted to the rank of Major in the same regiment by Governor FENTON, upon strong recommendations not only from Colonel TARBELL and Lieutenant-Colonel DONELSON, but from General MORRIS, who wrote a letter to the Governor expressing warm praise of the military

ability of his staff officer. Soon after he was appointed Chief of Staff by General CRAWFORD, and served in the army of the Potomac until the close of the war. Since then he has received a Brevet Lieutenant-Colonelcy, and during Governor FENTON's second term he served upon his staff as aide-de-camp.

Col. WAGSTAFF's first prominent connection with politics was in 1866, when he was a delegate from Suffolk county to the Republican State Convention at Syracuse, and was one of the Vice-Presidents of that body. In the fall of the same year he was nominated for Member of Assembly by the Republicans, and elected by 486 majority. In the Legislature of 1867 he made a good record, serving as Chairman of Militia, and member of that on Joint Library. In 1868 he was a delegate to the National Republican Convention at Chicago. Since then he has been actively identified with political movements in New York and elsewhere. In 1872 he acted with the Liberal Republicans, and voted for HORACE GREELEY for President. Last fall he received an Assembly nomination from the Democrats and Liberal Republicans of the Seventh New York district, and was elected by a majority of 239, defeating ex-Assemblyman GEORGE W. CLARKE, a Republican, whose majority the previous year was 1,135.

Col. WAGSTAFF is tall and straight as an arrow, and of very agreeable presence. He possesses a vigorous, cultivated mind, and a retentive memory. He has a keen sense of the ludicrous and a bright wit, which together with an unending store of reminiscences, render him an entertaining companion. He is also a member of unwearying activity, intense energy and perseverance. He ranks well in the Assembly, and is what may be termed a working member. He serves on the Committees on Insurance, Militia and Grievances.

SMITH M. WEED.

SMITH MEAD WEED was born in the town of Belmont, Franklin county, N. Y., July 26th, 1833. His father, ROSWELL ALCOTT WEED, was born at Lebanon, N. H., 1798, and died at Plattsburgh, N. Y., in the year 1869. His mother, SARAH A. MEAD, a daughter of SMITH MEAD, a prominent citizen of Clinton county, and who participated in the battle of Plattsburgh, is still living.

Mr. WEED, after receiving a good common school and academic education, attended the Harvard University Law School, where he graduated in 1857, with the degree of Bachelor of Laws. He immediately entered upon the practice of law in Plattsburgh, becoming a copartner with Messrs. BECKWITH & JOHNSON of that place. He very soon displayed more than ordinary ability and skill in his profession, and, from 1857 to 1865, was constantly occupied with its duties. In 1865, Mr. WEED was elected President of the village of Plattsburgh, which office he continued to fill for a number of terms. In the same year he first appeared in political life as Member of the Assembly from Clinton county. He was returned to the Legislature for the two following years, and in 1866 received from his party the compliment of being its candidate for Speaker.

In 1867, Mr. WEED was elected Delegate-at-Large to the Constitutional Convention. One of his speeches made in that body on the separate submission of the negro suffrage clause, attracted considerable attention at the time. In it he avowed his belief that the colored people of the State possessed sufficient capacity and intelligence to vote. He had, in 1865, voted for the amendment to the Constitution of the United States prohibiting slavery, and in the Assembly, in 1867, urged that the negroes of the State be allowed to vote for delegates to the State Constitutional Convention.

In fact, Mr. WEED then occupied the liberal ground which his party have rather slowly come up to since, and was certainly one of the first Democrats in the country to urge the propriety of the "New Departure."

In 1868 Mr. WEED was engaged as senior counsel, on the part of the State, by the managers of the impeachment of Canal Commissioner DORN. He made the principal argument for the prosecution in that case, which is reported in the volume of the proceedings at that trial.

In 1871 Mr. WEED was again returned to the Legislature from Clinton county. During this term, when "Tammany" was in the very pride of its strength, he came, almost single-handed, in collision with its schemes. As a member of the then Railroad Committee, he successfully resisted the designs of the strikers upon the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company. He, as a member of that Committee, proposed and submitted to the Assembly a minority report in favor of the repeal of the Erie Classification Act. That report was considered an able statement of the question, and came within one vote of carrying against the full power of Tammany and Erie. It was the first official document which denounced the Erie Ring in unmeasured terms.

For this Tammany did not forgive him, and although his desire to adhere to his party led him to support, in common with other Democrats, such bills as had been made party-measures at this session, he was thereafter regarded as an enemy of the then party-controlling influence. He was brutally assaulted by the notorious JAMES IRVING, then a power with the "Ring," for which assault IRVING was promptly driven from the Assembly.

Since 1865 Mr. WEED has been a leading man in North Eastern New York, not only in its politics, but in its various business interests. He is now largely concerned in the lumbering and mining business of Clinton county. He has done much to call attention to the resources of that quarter of the State, and has labored with great earnestness for some

time to bring railroad facilities to the country along the western shore of Lake Champlain. He forwarded very considerably the enterprises of the railroad on the west side of Lake Champlain, and the recent formation of the New York and Canada Railroad Company with the design of pushing a through road from Whitehall to Montreal, on the west side, is almost due solely to his untiring efforts. During the session of 1873 he warmly advocated the passage of the Champlain Ship Canal Bill, and secured its passage through the Assembly.

In business, Mr. WEED is enterprising and sagacious. As a lawyer and political speaker, he commands attention more by the substance of his matter than by any graces of diction or manner. He has not the "gift of gab" or facility of fluent declamation. His ideas are always put into the plainest and shortest words. He needs antagonism to bring him out, and is strongest in debate and repartee.

In politics he has always been a Democrat, and is greatly attached to the fundamental ideas of that party. He has always stood on the side of liberality and progress. Even in his first term in the Legislature he became noted for his advocacy of the Free School Law.

Mr. WEED was married September 6, 1859, to CARRIE L. STANDISH, seventh in lineal descent from MILES STANDISH, of Plymouth, and daughter of Col. M. M. STANDISH, late of Plattsburgh.

He was elected to the Legislature of 1873 by about 250 majority, although his county went for GRANT by about 500 majority. Last fall he was re-elected by the extraordinary majority of 1,245. The candidate first nominated by the Republicans withdrew in his favor, and when at a late stage of the canvass another was nominated, he polled a very light vote. Mr. WEED is this session the leader of his party in the House. He was a caucus candidate for Speaker in opposition to Gen. HUSTED, and polled the full party vote. He has distinguished himself by his opposition to some of the proposed

amendments to the constitution, notably, the Fifth Article, because of what he regards its tendency to concentrate and centralize powers which belong to the people. The defeat of that article is undoubtedly due mainly to the efforts of Mr. WEED and Col. SPENCER. Mr. WEED is a member of the important Committees on Ways and Means, Railroads, Grievances and Rules, and by his course in the present House is adding materially to his already brilliant reputation.

GEORGE WEST.

Mr. WEST is a fair representative of the successful business man. By dint of energy, sagacity and persevering industry, he has risen in a few years from comparative poverty to opulence, and is now one of the largest manufacturers in the eastern section of the State. His career is instructive and worthy of emulation. Born in Keentsbeer, Devonshire county, England, on the 17th of February, 1823, of parents in moderate circumstances, he had very little adventitious aid in making a future for himself. He received a good common school education, however, and inherited from his parents industrious habits and a robust constitution. With these as his capital he commenced the battle of life. His father and uncle were paper makers, but he served a thorough apprenticeship with JOHN DEWDNEY, one of the leading manufacturers in the west of England, learning the business in all its branches. Soon after reaching his majority he married an English girl, whose prudent management and wise counsel, no doubt, contributed in no small degree to his success. He soon discovered that England failed to afford full scope for his abilities, and, in 1849, when he had reached his twenty-sixth year, he came with his young wife to this country. When he arrived on our shores he was almost pen-

niless, but he possessed a good stock of indomitable pluck. He procured employment in New Jersey, where he worked about a year. From there he went to Massachusetts, where he obtained employment in a paper mill as an ordinary operative, continuing in that capacity about three years. Ultimately his employers discerned and appreciated his value, and he soon found himself the responsible manager of one of the largest manufactories of writing paper in the Bay State. During several years' experience in that position, he rapidly developed the sterling qualities by which he finally won success; and before he had been ten years in this country he became a partner in an extensive paper mill. In the year 1860 he sold out his business in Massachusetts, and seeing a favorable opening at Ballston Spa, removed thither. How well time has demonstrated the wisdom of his venture is shown by the fact that he is now sole proprietor of five large paper mills, all of which are run exclusively on manilla paper, used in the manufacture of grocers' bags, and also a paper bag manufactory, which turns out from eighty to one hundred million of those bags per year, transacting in connection therewith a business which averages about \$65,000 monthly. He is also an equal partner in the firm of GAIR & WEST, whose depot for the sale of paper, paper bags and twine is located at No. 143 Reade street, New York, as well as director in the First National Bank of Ballston Spa, and the largest individual stockholder in the bank.

In personal appearance, Mr. WEST is a good specimen of the sturdy Briton. Though short of stature, his robust form and broad shoulders seem well able to carry the massive and well-developed head, which seems a fit repository for a brain of more than ordinary activity. He bears with him, however, the air and manner of one who has earned the right to take the world easy, and the geniality characterizing his intercourse with others strengthens such an impression in the mind of one who judges men by first impressions. He is a man of much earnestness of character, and is still a hard

worker, carrying much of his energy and thoroughness in the committee rooms, though he very rarely attempts to make more than a brief and pointed off-hand speech on the floor of the House.

Mr. WEST has always been an ardent Republican, and enjoys a large degree of popularity in his own district, as is evidenced by the fact that he was elected to the Assembly of 1872 by the large majority of 1,166 over WILLIAM T. ODELL, his Democratic competitor. In the fall of 1872 he was re-elected without opposition, no other candidate being nominated, and in the last Legislature was the only member of the Assembly having no vote against him. Last fall local issues which arose rendered him less fortunate, his majority over GEORGE A. ENSIGN, his Democratic opponent being 420. Mr. WEST is Chairman of the Committee on Trade and Manufactures, and member of Public Printing and Public Lands.

ELISHA S. WHALEN.

Mr. WHALEN was born in the town of Milton, Saratoga county, N. Y., March 24, 1817. He had common school advantages until the age of thirteen years, when his business life commenced as clerk in a country store at Rock City Falls, where he remained about two years; thence he went to West Milton in the same capacity, remaining there until November, 1836, when he left for western New York, spending the following winter with his father's family in Monroe county, whither they had preceded him by two or three years. He went to the village of Medina, in March, 1837, poor and unknown, but armed with a letter signed by the then prominent men of Milton and Ballston Spa, "commending him to the respect and confidence of all with whom he might

make either acquaintance or business." Securing a situation at once with a prominent firm, carrying on a large country store, post-office, grain warehouse and a potash factory, he commenced a new business career at \$10 per month on trial; after two months' service he was promoted to the situation of book-keeper, confidential clerk and \$400 per annum, then the largest salary paid in the village. He has been in active business life since as subordinate or principal, having been engaged in merchandising, merchant, milling, and as produce dealer since 1841, retiring last September (on account of impaired health) on a moderate competency. He is a director of the Union Bank of Medina, and was one of the original directors of the projected Niagara River and New York Air Line Railroad, organized during the present year. He was a Democrat up to the organization of the American party; joined the Republican party on the Kansas question, and has acted with that party since; was Supervisor in 1851 and 1852, and again 1871 and 1872, and is Chairman of the present Board; was chosen Member of Assembly by the American party at a special election, held December 26, 1854, in place of ALEXIS WARD, deceased, over BORDEN H. MILLS, Whig and Democrat, by over 1,000 majority; was Presidential Elector in 1861, casting his vote in the electoral college for LINCOLN and HAVLIN; was chosen to the Assembly in 1872 by 1,385 majority, over Dr. THOMAS CUSHING, Liberal, and re-elected last fall by a majority of 808 over ASAHIEL BYINGTON, Democrat.

On the 6th of August, 1844, Mr. WHALEN was married to Miss CATHARINE GROFF, who has contributed largely to his life success. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is trustee, treasurer and district steward, and was lay delegate to the last annual conference of the Genesee district.

His father was American born, of Irish descent, and a farmer in comfortable circumstances; his mother is of German descent, American born, and both are deceased.

He served last year on the Committee of Ways and Means and Grievances. This year he is chairman of Indian Affairs and a member of Expenditures of the Executive Department.

JACOB M. WITBECK.

Mr. WITBECK is engaged extensively in milling at Nassau, Rensselaer county, N. Y., where he resides, and is also a partner in a large brick business at Castleton. He was born on the 17th of September, 1820, in the town of Schodack, Rensselaer county, and is of Dutch descent. His paternal grandfather came from Holland, and was one of the first settlers in Schodack, on the Van Rensselaer Manor. Mr. WITBECK may be styled a self-made man. At the age of eleven he was taken from school and left to work his own way in the world. His subsequent career as mechanic, farmer, hotel keeper, brick manufacturer and miller, has been a success such as honesty and persevering industry only can secure.

Although a life-long Democrat, Mr. WITBECK was elected Supervisor of the town of Nassau, one of the strongest Republican towns in the county, in 1868, an undoubted tribute to his patriotic efforts in raising soldiers during the dark days of the war. His position throughout the community in which he is best known, is that of a man of influence, character, and real moral worth. Mr. WITBECK was married June 7, 1848, to Miss AMANDA NIVER, of Kinderhook, Columbia county, N. Y., and attends the Reformed church.

He is an excellent working member of the House, and serves on the Committees on Federal Relations, and Two-thirds and Three-fifths Bills.

AMHERST WIGHT, JR.

No portion of the State is more ably represented in the Assembly than Westchester county. Her three members are each of them of marked character and superior ability. It would be invidious to draw a comparison between them, but we cannot certainly transgress the bounds of propriety in observing that, if such comparison were made, Mr. WIGHT would not suffer thereby. Able, dignified and candid in debate, and pleasant and courteous in his more familiar intercourse with fellow members, he is respected by both friends and opponents, while his decided ability inspires genuine admiration. He is not, perhaps, a brilliant orator, but his speeches are invariably full of sound sense, expressed in well-chosen language. He shows upon the floor much less of the politician than of the lawyer, while he brings to the discussion of the important legal topics of the present session extensive learning fortified by large experience and exhaustive reading.

Mr. WIGHT was born in New York city, August 15, 1828, and has therefore passed his forty-fifth year. He is the son of AMHERST WIGHT, Sr., a native of Bellingham, Mass., who is still living at the age of eighty-two years, having been a prominent member of the bar of this State for more than half a century. Mr. WIGHT's mother was JOHANNA G. SANDERSON previous to her marriage, and it is worthy of note that she was born in the historic HASBROUCK house at Newburgh, which was occupied in revolutionary times by General WASHINGTON as his headquarters. Mr. WIGHT's education is mainly self-acquired. Previous to his thirteenth year he attended a private school in New York city, where, of course, his studies were almost entirely rudimentary. When he had reached that age, he left school and applied himself diligently to study, being especially enamored of the

classics, with which he became quite familiar. Finally he began the study of law, which he prosecuted until he reached his majority. He was then admitted to the bar, and since that time he has practiced in the courts of New York city and Westchester, devoting his talents principally to that branch of the profession relating to real estate. He resided in the metropolis until 1859, when he removed to Portchester, where, with the exception of a brief period spent in New York, he has resided up to the present date.

Mr. WIGHT's political creed is unmistakably Republican. He has belonged to the party since its first organization, at which time he aided in forming the first Republican committee in New York city, being then a resident of the Ninth ward where the committee was organized. Though not properly speaking, a politician, he has always felt deep interest in the fortunes of the Republican party, and, when occasion required, has not only assumed his share of active campaign work, but has often stepped into the breach, and acted as the party standard bearer in exciting local contests. His town is Democratic by about 150 majority, but we find him, in 1871, triumphantly chosen to a seat in the Board of Supervisors, to which he was also chosen in the following year. In the fall of 1872 he received a spontaneous nomination for the Assembly from the Second district of his county, where the Democratic majority is usually about 800. The opposing candidate, ELIAS DUSENBURY, possessed undoubted strength, but Mr. WIGHT was successful by a small majority, running several hundred votes ahead of the Presidential ticket. Last fall he was re-elected over JOHN H. CORNELL, Democrat, by a majority of 93.

He was married in 1856; became a widower in 1864, and married again in 1867. Although formerly connected with Dr. OSGOOD's Unitarian church in New York city, he has, during late years, belonged to the Episcopal denomination. An amiable, unpretending gentleman in every respect, Mr. WIGHT has gained much popularity during the present

session, and is doing excellent service for the people of Westchester county. Last year he was Chairman of the Committee on Privileges and Elections, a member of the Insurance Committee, and served also on the special Erie Committee. In this session he is Chairman of Insurance, and member of Judiciary and Sub-Committee of the Whole.

JOHN D. WINFIELD.

Mr. WINFIELD is a man of plain and even homely exterior, but he evidently possesses a kindly disposition, and is swayed by honest impulses. He is a hardy and active Ulster county farmer, full of vigor and common sense, and can be relied upon, we apprehend, in almost any emergency which requires the exercise of judgment and discretion. He was born in Rochester, Ulster county, April 22, 1833. His parents, both of whom are living, honored and respected, are JAMES R. and ELIZABETH WINFIELD, his mother's maiden name being DAVIS. In early life, he obtained a fair education in the common schools, and such opportunities as he had he made good use of. Since reaching manhood he has followed the bent of his tastes and adhered to farming as an occupation, and has been quite successful in that honorable pursuit. On the 30th of October, 1856, he was married to MARIA HORNBECK, also of Rochester.

Mr. WINFIELD has taken an active part in politics since boyhood. He has always been a Democrat, and voted for FILLMORE in 1856. He has not frequently held public office, however, his only experience in that regard, previous to his legislative service, being as member of the Board of Supervisors in the years 1867 and 1869, and he is now a member of the Board. In the Legislature he performs his duties quietly and effectively, but he is not known as a talking member.

CHARLES B. WOOD.

The member from the second district of Orange county is Major CHARLES B. WOOD, who now assumes the responsibilities of official position in civil life for the first time. He is, however, an intelligent and active member of the House, and he faithfully looks after the interests of his constituents. He was born at Warwick, Orange county, on the 3d of September, 1837, and is, therefore, in the early prime of manhood. He was educated in the public schools, and since reaching manhood has mainly followed railroading, his present occupation being conductor on the Erie railway.

Major WOOD was one of the first to volunteer after the attack on Fort Sumter, and was mustered into the United States service as a private in the 71st Regiment, New York State National Guard, on the 19th of April, 1861. Subsequently he was promoted to Lieutenant and then to Captain in the 124th New York Volunteers, and served during nearly the entire period of the war. On the 18th of October, 1864, he was discharged at Petersburg on account of disability from wounds received in action, and was afterward breveted Major for gallant and meritorious conduct during the war. He shared in all the brilliant record made by the army of the Potomac from first to last, and made a reputation as a brave and high-minded officer.

In the recent Assembly canvass, Major WOOD received a majority of 892, over BENJAMIN F. BAILEY, his Republican opponent.

PETER WOODS.

Mr. Woods was the opponent, in the fall of 1872, of ex-Assemblyman JAMES IRVING, the candidate of Apollo Hall, Custom House Republicans and old Tammany Ring. He was the nominee of the Reformed Tammany organization and the Committee of Seventy, and was also supported by many Republicans. Last fall he was the regular Tammany and Liberal Republican candidate, and was opposed by JOSEPH B. VARNUM, Republican, and NICHOLAS HAUGHTON, Apollo Hall. He was born in the county of Monaghan, Ireland, December 15, 1832, and is, therefore, forty-one years of age. At the age of seventeen he came to this country, and located in New York city, where he has since resided. He was educated in the common schools of Ireland and New York, learned the trade of painter—plain and decorative—and stands very high in the art, having been in business as an employer more than fifteen years. He has been more than ordinarily successful, and does a large and growing business.

Mr. Woods' father was a man of fine culture and thorough education, having been designed for the medical profession, but he died when the subject of this sketch was but thirteen years of age, leaving, mainly in his care, a large family of sons and daughters. Except his service in the Assembly, Mr. Woods has never held public position. He served his time, however, in the New York Fire Department, and has taken an active part in New York politics for a number of years, belonging to what is known as the Democratic Union. For over nine years he persistently fought the old Tammany Ring. Mr. Woods is a man of great business energy, and much force of character, efficiently representing his district in the House. He is a member of the Roman Catholic church, and has been twice married, first to ANNA BRENNEN, in 1858, and the second time to ELIZABETH LACOMPT, in 1869, his first wife dying in 1862.

JACOB WORTH.

Mr. WORTH is a resident of the sixteenth ward of Brooklyn, and represents the sixth district of Kings county in the Assembly. His parents emigrated from South Germany in the year 1837, locating in New York city; five years later they removed to Brooklyn, and there the family have since resided. Mr. WORTH was born in New York soon after his parents arrived in that city, and therefore he is now about thirty-six years of age. His father died when he was but seven years of age, and from that time he was practically obliged to depend upon his own efforts to earn a living, as well as to provide for his widowed mother. He thus had very little opportunity to obtain an education. In point of fact, the first time he ever saw the inside of a school-house was in 1863, when he was first a candidate for legislative honors. He is therefore self-made, as the phrase goes, and self-educated.

His life has been quite eventful. At the age of fifteen he went to sea, and, during an absence of three years, made the circuit of the globe. Soon after his return he entered the political arena, and at the early age of nineteen was elected to represent his ward in the Democratic General Committee. When the war broke out in 1861, he was enthusiastic in championing the Union cause, and since that time he has been a firm and consistent Republican, devoting much time and effort in spreading a knowledge of the principles of his party among his fellow-countrymen. It is probably due to him more than to any other man that, in spite of adverse influences arising from excise laws and other issues, the Germans of the Eastern district of Brooklyn, comprising a large portion of the population of that section, have been kept true to Republicanism.

In September, 1862, Mr. WORTH was commissioned a First

Lieutenant in Col. CRONK's regiment, the 139th New York, and went with his regiment to the front. Shortly after he was promoted to a Captaincy, and was given a command in the 84th New York regiment. He participated with credit in all the battles and skirmishes of the regiment until the latter part of 1863, when he resigned because of ill-health.

In the fall of the same year he was placed in the field as the Republican candidate for Assembly in the district comprising the 7th, 15th, 16th and 19th wards of Brooklyn, and succeeded in defeating FRANK SMITH, the Democratic candidate, by over 1,000 majority. In 1864 he was re-elected by about 700 majority over JOHN HANSON, the district giving the Democratic State ticket at the same time 500 majority. In 1865 he was once more chosen to the Assembly, receiving about 1,200 majority, Judge EAMES, a very popular man on the Democratic side, being his opponent. In 1866 he was a candidate for Street Commissioner against ROBERT FURY, and was defeated by 1,400 votes, in a poll of more than 48,000, running 8,800 votes ahead of the Republican State ticket. In the fall of 1867 he was elected to the Assembly from the district composed of the 16th and 19th wards of Brooklyn, by 30 majority, the Democratic State ticket receiving over 1,100 majority. In 1868 he represented the Second Congressional district of this State in the Electoral College which gave Gen. GRANT the 34 votes of the Empire State. He ran again for Assembly in 1869, but was defeated by BERNARD HAVER, a Democrat, by 58 votes, owing to the fact that an Independent Republican was in the field, and polled some 458 votes. In 1872 he was again elected to the Assembly, receiving a majority of 555 over AUGUST MERINGER. He is now completing his sixth term in the Legislature, having been elected last fall by a plurality of 958 over JOHN RABER, Democrat, and JOHN HINMAN, Independent.

It is almost impossible to overcome his popularity in the 16th ward. He has suffered much detraction at the hands

of political opponents, but he is ever ready to meet his assailants face to face on any issue, and his manly course of action invariably compels respect and admiration. His energy and perseverance are distinguishing traits in his character, and the Committee of One Hundred last year showed obvious appreciation of his merit, by requesting him to champion their Reform Charter through the Assembly. It is conceded that he worthily performed the task allotted to him, not hesitating to measure lances with the ablest debaters in the House. Mr. WORTH has been elected to represent the 16th ward in the Republican General Committee every year for the past twelve years, and during the past ten years has been the elected representative of his assembly district to all the State Conventions of the Republican party. He is a gentleman of good presence and commanding figure, standing six feet in height. If he lives to the usual age allotted to man, he bids fair to become as popular in the State as he is now in Brooklyn. He was married in 1861, and has two interesting children.

JOHN O'DONNELL,

CLERK OF THE ASSEMBLY.

Though he assumed the position without experience in the desk previous to last year, the duties of Clerk of the Assembly have very rarely been better performed than by ex-Senator O'DONNELL. The position is one of great labor and responsibility, and requires a peculiar order of talent in the incumbent; but he has shown that he possesses in large degree the special qualifications required, being, as all will admit who have watched him during this and the last sessions, industrious, prompt, methodical, a good reader, a clear-headed man of business, and a pleasant, courteous gentleman.

For the admirable and orderly manner in which the legislative business has been transacted, great credit is primarily due to Speaker HUSTED, but his efforts would be useless to a great extent were they not aided and seconded, as they certainly have been, by the tact and intelligence of the Clerk. Mr. O'DONNELL's ability is universally recognized, and he enjoys the confidence and esteem of all the members of the House.

JOHN O'DONNELL is a native of Fort Ann, Washington county, where he was born in 1827. His father was born in Ireland and his mother in America. In early life he removed to Lyme, Jefferson county, and in 1849 he settled in Lowville, Lewis county, where he now resides. In that place he commenced trade as a general merchant, and by earnest and careful attention to business gradually extended his means and acquired the confidence and respect of his fellow citizens. He subsequently purchased largely of real estate, in central and eligible business localities, and erected commodious blocks of buildings, extending along both the main streets of Lowville, which have added greatly to the commercial facilities of the place. His investments proved successful to that extent that he, several years ago, withdrew from trade, the leisure thus secured enabling him to render valuable service to the people of the State and the Republican party, as well as to the temperance cause, with which he has long been closely identified.

He has had a long and honorable political career. In 1864 he was a member of the Republican State Committee, and was also a Delegate to the Baltimore Convention which renominated President LINCOLN. In the same year he was a Member of Assembly from Lewis county, serving in that body as Chairman of the Committee on the Internal Affairs of Towns and Counties, and bestowing diligent attention upon the interests of his constituents and such measures as were for the public welfare. During the session he secured the passage of laws appropriating about fifty thou-

sand dollars for improvements in Lewis county, and was the author of an important bill to protect the butter and cheese interests of the State. In 1865 he was elected Senator for the Eighteenth district (Lewis and Jefferson), in place of Hon. JAMES A. BELL, defeating, by a large majority, ANDREW CORNWALL, his Democratic opponent. During his first senatorial term he was Chairman of the Internal Affairs Committee, and a member of the Committees on Insurance and Public Expenditures. In his first session he reported and advocated the New York Excise Bill, and was the author of acts to protect political primaries, caucuses and conventions, and to divide a safety fund of \$80,000 in the Bank Department among the bill-holders of Yates and Lewis counties and reciprocity banks.

In 1867 he distinguished himself by introducing a measure, noted for its originality and success, and known as the "O'Donnell Railroad Bill." It provided, in place of State aid to individual roads, a general plan by which the State should aid any steam railroad in the State, outside of New York city and county, that should build and complete in good running order, where a parallel road was not already built or in process of building, within an average distance of ten miles thereof, to the amount of \$5,000 per mile for every twenty miles of road. It was with difficulty that a report, even for consideration, could be obtained from the Senate Railroad Committee in reference to the bill. At its first appearance in Committee of the Whole but two Senators were in favor of it, but a long discussion of its merits changed the current of opinion, and it finally passed by a large vote. Afterward it passed the Assembly, but it was vetoed by Governor FENTON. He also secured the passage in the Senate of bills to extend the New York excise law to the State at large, to suppress obscene literature, and to prohibit the employment of railroad employees who use liquors as a beverage, but they were all defeated in the Assembly.

In 1867 he was again elected to the Senate, defeating LEWIS

H. BROWN by 1,647 majority. In the ensuing session, as a reward for his fidelity to the interests of the State, and for his unbending integrity and honesty, he was made Chairman of the Finance Committee, a position which constituted him the premier of the Senate. He was besides a member of the Committees on Printing, Privileges and Elections, and Public Health.

During this session he devoted himself to the revision of the assessment laws of the State, and introduced a bill which provided for the taxing and assessing of corporations at the Comptroller's office in Albany. In pursuance of the order of the Senate in connection with his bill, for the first time in the history of the State, all the corporations made sworn statements of the amount of their capital, surplus and net earnings for the preceding five years. These returns were embodied in a report from the Comptroller, and, in an elaborate speech upon his bill, Senator O'DONNELL claimed that there was \$870,989,672.39 of corporate property alone liable to taxation, and that of this vast amount only \$235,855,172 was assessed for taxation. In 1869, without his knowledge, he was selected as Supervisor of Internal Revenue for the Northern District of New York, which office he held until August, when, by law of Congress, the two districts in the State were consolidated into one. In the late Presidential canvass, Senator O'DONNELL took the stump for General GRANT, and held upward of fifty meetings in behalf of the cause. After the close of that canvass, at the organization of the Assembly, and in obedience to the unanimous wish of the party in the State, who desire to carry the reforms promised into the Clerk's desk, he was chosen Clerk of the Assembly, without solicitation on his part. At the opening of the present session there were a number of candidates for the position, but Mr. O'DONNELL's qualifications were deemed to be the best, and he was the choice of a large majority of the Republican caucus for re-election.

Mr. O'DONNELL has been the recognized champion of the

temperance interest in the Legislature and elsewhere, for a number of years past, and he has given his best efforts in behalf of that cause. He is, in fact, one of the most prominent temperance men in the entire State, and frequently takes occasion to deliver lectures and addresses on the subject. So far as honorably lay in his power, he was active in endeavoring to secure the passage of the several temperance bills before the last legislature. As a public speaker he is fluent and argumentative, seldom failing to fix the attention of an audience, and always leaving the impression that he is correct and conscientious in his views. He is known as a man of great energy and perseverance, and he seldom undertakes an enterprise without carrying it through. Genial in disposition, gentlemanly and courteous in manners, and a man of fine intellectual attainments, JOHN O'DONNELL is in every way an ornament to the Clerk's desk, and an honor to the State he serves.

SENATORS.

NAME, DISTRICTS, COUNTIES IN WHICH THEY RESIDE, POST-OFFICE ADDRESS AND POLITICS.

Lieut.-Gov. JOHN C. ROBINSON, President of the Senate.

Dist.	Name of Senator.	County.	Post-office address.	Politics.
1	John A. King	Suffolk	Great Neck	Republican.
2	John W. Coe	Kings	Brooklyn	Democrat.
3	John C. Jacobs	Kings	Brooklyn	Democrat.
4	John Fox	New York	New York	Democrat.
5	James W. Booth	New York	New York	Republican.
6	Jacob A. Gross	New York	New York	Democrat.
7	Thomas A. Ledwith	New York	New York	Democrat.
8	Hugh H. Moore	New York	New York	Democrat.
9	William H. Robertson	Westchester	Katonah	Republican.
10	Edward M. Madden	Orange	Middletown	Republican.
11	Benjamin Ray	Columbia	Hudson	Democrat.
12	Roswell A. Parmenter	Rensselaer	Troy	Democrat.
13	Jesse C. Dayton	Albany	West Troy	Democrat.
14	Henry C. Connelly	Ulster	Fly Mountain	Republican.
15	Webster Wagner	Montgomery	Palatine Bridge	Republican.
16	Franklin W. Tobey	Essex	Port Henry	Republican.
17	Wells S. Dickinson	Franklin	Bangor	Republican.
18	Andrew C. Middleton	Jefferson	Black River	Independent
19	Samuel S. Lowery	Oneida	Utica	Republican.
20	Archibald C. McGowan	Herkimer	Frankfort	Republican.
21	Charles Kellogg	Madison	Chittenango	Republican.
22	Daniel P. Wood	Onondaga	Syracuse	Republican.
23	James G. Thompson	Chenango	Norwich	Republican.
24	John H. Selkreg	Tompkins	Ithaca	Republican.
25	William B. Woodin	Cayuga	Anburn	Republican.
26	William Johnson	Seneca	Seneca Falls	Democrat.
27	George B. Bradley	Stauben	Corning	Democrat.
28	Jarvis Lord	Monroe	Rochester	Democrat.
29	Dan H. Cole	Orleans	Albion	Republican.
30	Abijah J. Wellman	Allegany	Friendship	Republican.
31	John Ganson	Erie	Buffalo	Democrat.
32	Albert G. Dow	Cattaraugus	Randolph	Republican.

MEMBERS OF ASSEMBLY.

NAME, DISTRICT, COUNTY, POST-OFFICE ADDRESS AND POLITICS.

Hon. JAMES W. HUSTED, of Westchester, Speaker.

Dist.	Name.	County.	Post-office.	Politics.
2	Abeel, Hector.....	Ulster.....	Stone Bidge.....	Democrat.
3	Alberger, Franklin A.....	Erie.....	Buffalo.....	Republican.
2	Allen, John J.....	Kings.....	Brooklyn.....	Republican.
1	Alvord, Thos. G.....	Onondaga.....	Syracuse.....	Independ't.
	Badger, John P.....	Franklin.....	Burke.....	Republican.
2	Barrow, George.....	Onondaga.....	Syracuse.....	Republican.
1	Bassett, Benj. J.....	Delaware.....	Walton.....	Republican.
2	Batcheller, Geo. S.....	Saratoga.....	Saratoga Springs.....	Republican.
	Beebe, George M.....	Sullivan.....	Monticello.....	Democrat.
	Beecher, Harris H.....	Chenango.....	Norwich.....	Republican.
8	Bennett, George C.....	Kings.....	Brooklyn.....	Republican.
5	Berri, Eugene D.....	Kings.....	Brooklyn.....	Republican.
18	Biglin, Bernard.....	New York.....	New York city.....	Republican.
17	Bleasling, Andrew.....	New York.....	New York city.....	Democrat.
15	Blumenthal, Joseph.....	New York.....	New York city.....	Democrat.
2	Bordwell, Orville C.....	Niagara.....	Coomer.....	Republican.
	Bostwick, Wm. L.....	Tompkins.....	Ithaca.....	Republican.
4	Braman, Waters W.....	Albany.....	West Troy.....	Republican.
1	Brewer, Francis B.....	Chautauqua.....	Westfield.....	Republican.
2	Brown, Arthur F.....	Onondaga.....	Westmoreland.....	Republican.
3	Bulkeley, Justin L.....	Oswego.....	Sandy Creek.....	Republican.
3	Burritt, Leonard.....	Monroe.....	Spencerport.....	Republican.
3	Coffey, Michael.....	Kings.....	Brooklyn.....	Democrat.
2	Carpenter, Henry.....	Madison.....	Onondaga.....	Republican.
1	Cauldwell, William.....	Westchester.....	Morrisania.....	Democrat.
1	Chadwick, Geo. H.....	Onondaga.....	Chadwick's Mills.....	Republican.
2	Clark, Henry M.....	Wayne.....	East Palmyra.....	Republican.
1	Cleary, Wm. V.....	Rensselaer.....	Troy.....	Democrat.
7	Colahan, Stephen J.....	Kings.....	Brooklyn.....	Democrat.
1	Comstock, Artemas W.....	Niagara.....	Lockport.....	Republican.

Dist.	Name.	County.	Post-office.	Politica.
20	Coughlin, John D.....	New York.....	New York city	Democrat.
14	Daly, James.....	New York.....	New York city	Democrat.
2	Davis, Emerson E.	Washington.....	Whitehall	Democrat.
9	Deane, George B., Jr.....	New York.....	New York city	Republican.
1	Denniston, Augustus	Orange	Blooming Grove	Republican.
2	Dickson, Robert	Rensselaer	Lansingburgh.....	Republican.
1	Donahue, James F.....	Kings	Brooklyn	Democrat.
2	Eastman, Harvey G.....	Dutchess	Poughkeepsie	Republican.
1	Ely, Wm. H.....	Otsego.....	East Worcester	Democrat.
2	Farrar, Alonzo H.....	Columbia	Kinderhook	Republican.
	Fish, Hamilton, Jr.....	Putnam	Garrison's.....	Republican.
5	Foote, Robert B.....	Erie	Abbott's Corners.....	Republican.
1	Goss, George A.....	Monroe	Pittsford	Republican.
	Gregory, Harmon L.....	Schuyler	Altay	Republican.
2	Griffin, Matthew.....	Delaware.....	Griffin's Corners.....	Republican.
1	Gurnee, Emory W.....	Wayne	Clyde.....	Democrat.
1	Hammond, Samuel H.....	Ontario	Geneva	Democrat.
1	Haarahan, Patrick.....	Erie	Buffalo	Democrat.
1	Hardy, Leonard F.....	Cayuga	Weedsport	Republican.
3	Hayes, James.....	New York.....	New York city	Democrat.
	Hazelton, William C.....	Seneca	Ovid.....	Democrat.
1	Healey, James	New York.....	New York city	Democrat.
	Herrick, John.....	Lewis	New Bremen.....	Democrat.
2	Hiller, John D.....	Chautauqua.....	Smith's Mills	Republican.
	Hoag, John B.....	Schoharie	Sharon Springs.....	Democrat.
	Holden, Austin W.....	Warren.....	Glens Falls.....	Democrat.
2	Houghton, Charles F.....	Steuben	Corning	Republican.
2	Hussey, Erastus.....	Cayuga.....	Aurora	Republican.
2	Johnson, Willard	Oswego.....	Fulton	Democrat.
4	Jones, Griffith O.	Oneida	Floyd	Republican.
2	Kirk, William P.....	New York.....	New York city	Democrat.
	Knapp, William B.....	Rockland.....	Haverstraw	Democrat.
2	Kshinka, L. C. G.....	Albany	Albany.....	Democrat.
	Landfield, Jerome B.....	Tioga.....	Newark Valley.....	Republican.
1	Law, Alexander B.....	Washington.....	Shushan.....	Republican.
1	Lawrence, Henry.....	Columbia.....	Claverack	Democrat.
5	Leake, Austin.....	New York.....	New York city	Republican.

Dist.	Name.	County.	Post-office.	Politics.
2	Lincoln, Cyrillo S.....	Ontario.....	Naples	Republican.
	Lockwood, Horatio S.....	Greene ..	Hunter	Republican.
2	Lynde, Dolphus S.....	St. Lawrence....	Heron.....	Republican.
11	McAfee, Knox.....	New York.....	New York city.....	Republican.
9	McGroarty, John.....	Kings	Brooklyn	Democrat.
1	Mackin, James.....	Dutchess.....	Fishkill	Democrat.
	McQueen, Daniel P.....	Schenectady.....	Schenectady.....	Republican.
2	Manley, John.....	Cattaraugus.....	Little Valley.....	Republican.
4	Meivin, Theodore N.....	Kings	Brooklyn	Democrat.
	Miller, Edmund.....	Chemung.....	Elmira	Democrat.
	Miller, Warner.....	Herkimer.....	Herkimer	Republican.
	Morey, Jonathan B.....	Livingston	Danville.....	Republican.
12	Murray, Francis.....	New York.....	New York city.....	Democrat.
4	Nice, John.....	Erie	Grand Island.....	Republican.
2	Oakley, James M.....	Queens	Jamaica	Democrat.
19	O'Callaghan, Thomas.....	New York.....	New York city.....	Democrat.
3	Parry, John J.....	Oneida	Rome	Republican.
6	Pattee, Matthew.....	New York.....	New York city.....	Democrat.
1	Peterson, Elam.....	Jefferson	Ellisburgh.....	Republican.
	Petty, Nathan D.....	Suffolk	Riverhead.....	Republican.
	Phillips, George W.....	Cortland.....	Homer	Republican.
1	Philpot, Edward C.....	Madison.....	Pratt's Hollow.....	Republican.
	Pope, Gardner.....	Essex.....	Ansable Forks.....	Democrat.
1	Pope, Seth G.....	St. Lawrence ..	Ogdensburg	Republican.
1	Prince, L. Bradford.....	Queens.....	Flushing	Republican.
3	Quinn, Terrence J.....	Albany.....	Albany.....	Democrat.
4	Ryan, James.....	New York.....	New York city.....	Democrat.
3	Sanford, Jonah.....	St. Lawrence....	Hopkinton.....	Republican.
8	Scherman, George.....	New York.....	New York city.....	Republican.
1	Schifferdecker, Fred.....	Albany	Albany	Republican.
1	Shattuck, Stephen D.....	Steuben	Cohocton.....	Democrat.
	Sherwood, George.....	Broome	Binghamton	Republican.
3	Simon, Charles.....	Onondaga.....	Syracuse	Democrat.
1	Sloan, George B.....	Oswego.....	Oswego.....	Republican.
2	Smith, Hugh.....	Jefferson	Perch River.....	Republican.
2	Smith, Joseph W	Erie	Buffalo	Democrat.
1	Snyder, Robert A.....	Ulster.....	Saugerties	Republican.

Dist.	Name.	County.	Post-office.	Politics.
13	Spencer, Charles S.....	New York.....	New York city.....	Republican.
	Spencer, Geo. W.....	Yates.....	Penn Yan.....	Democrat.
	Stacy, Orrin T.....	Allegany.....	Rushford.....	Republican.
	Stephens, Stephen D., Jr.....	Richmond.....	Richmond.....	Democrat.
	Stover, Martin L.....	Montgomery ..	Amsterdam.....	Republican.
21	Sullivan, James E.....	New York.....	New York city.....	Democrat.
	Sunderilo, John.....	Fulton & Ham.,	Gloversville.....	Republican.
2	Taylor, George.....	Monroe.....	Rochester.....	Democrat.
	Tewksbury, Samuel W.....	Wyoming.....	Perry Center.....	Republican.
2	Thorp, Henry.....	Otsego.....	Butternuts.....	Liberal.
	Townsend, Elbert.....	Genesee.....	Pavilion Center.....	Republican.
	Vedder, Commodore P.....	Cattaraugus.....	Ellicottville.....	Republican.
10	Wachner, Louia C.....	New York.....	New York city.....	Democrat.
7	Wagstaff, Alfred, Jr.....	New York.....	New York city.....	Liberal.
	Weed, Smith M.....	Clinton.....	Plattsburgh.....	Democrat.
1	West, George.....	Saratoga.....	Ballston Spa.....	Republican.
	Whaleu, Elisha S.....	Orleans.....	Medina.....	Republican.
2	Wight, Amherst, Jr.....	Westchester.....	Port Chester.....	Republican.
3	Winfield, John D.....	Ulster.....	West Hurley.....	Democrat.
3	Witbeck, Joseph M.....	Rensselaer.....	Nassau.....	Democrat.
2	Wood, Charles B.....	Orange.....	Middletown.....	Democrat.
16	Woods, Peter.....	New York.....	New York city.....	Democrat.
6	Worth, Jacob.....	Kings.....	Brooklyn.....	Republican.

